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WEEKLY NOTES.

SOME of the newspapers have been taking stock of the first months of the present administration. The general estimate is a highly favorable one. Mr. GARFIELD is certainly not less acceptable to the mass of our people to-day than when he was elected,—if any thing he is more popular. The vigorous and honest exposure of official corruption in the Post office and the Treasury, the success of the measures for the temporary funding of the debt, and, not least of all, the President's evident purpose to administer his office without dictation from any quarter, all have helped to make Mr. GARFIELD a popular President thus far. It is felt that he is giving us an administration not less upright than that of Mr. HAYES, and yet more distinctly stamped with the personality of the chief magistrate. Not quite so favorable are the criticisms from another quarter. Those who are not content with a fair administration of the Government according to current methods and traditions, but are convinced that a reform in these is of urgent necessity, do not share in the general satisfaction. They regard the new administration as a retrogression from that of Mr. HAYES, where they had hoped for an advance. And they contemplate some of the President's acts, which have attracted general approval, as the least creditable of his official career. There is some reason, we must admit, for this censure. It is Mr. GARFIELD's misfortune, while it is also his advantage, that he has been immersed in practical politics almost since he attained his majority. It is this that gives him his practical tact in many difficult situations. But it is unfortunate that he is disposed by his career to attach to the public opinion of his guild a weight which it does not deserve, and to accept its traditions as embodying the only possible or sensible methods of conducting our Government. On the other hand, it must be said, the shape in which certain reforms have been presented by those who have constituted themselves their champions, has given just offence to the practical class of politicians. It is excusable when an American President dares to doubt if such a mechanical device as competitive examinations will suffice for the salvation of the country. The situation presents us with the old dualism of theory and practice, with no immediate prospect of their reconciliation.

SECRETARY WINDOM announces that the arrangements with regard to competitive examinations for the appointments in the New York Custom House will not be interfered with. It is not easy to tell exactly how much this announcement is worth. If it means that Mr. WINDOM honestly approves of the examination system, and believes in it as a method to secure good officers, then Mr. CURTIS and Mr. EATON have good reason to be pleased. If it only means that he, like Mr. KIRKWOOD, finds the arrangement in force and does not care to take the odium of upsetting it formally, then the system at New York will be worked with as little sincerity as in the Interior Department. Indeed it was never applied with thorough sincerity in the New York Custom House. Mr. MERRITT showed the country the way to use a great public establishment as a political engine, while still preserving the appearance of following the principle of the new reform. His subordinates were as busy on Mr. SHERMAN's behalf, and the recalcitrant were dismissed as promptly as though Civil Service Reform had never been thought of. We understand our Reformers to admit that the actual condition of the National Civil Service, as regards the capacity and honesty of the officials, is not so bad as to call for any great agitation. They only agitate to secure such reforms as will take from the officials the motive to interfere more in politics than they would if they were private citizens, and thus to secure a fair expression of the public's opinion in the conventions of each party. But we do not see how they will compass this by any particular mode of appointment. The head of a great public office, vested with power to remove either immediately or on the expiration of a commission, would only need to "make an example" of a few subordinates who did not work with him in politics, to secure the active coöperation of nearly all the rest. Whatever sort of clerks might be furnished him by the examination system, there might soon be among them a conflict for existence and survival of the fittest, on quite other lines than those of capacity and honesty. This difficulty the advisers of Mr. HAYES tried to meet by that famous order forbidding Government officials to take part in politics. But this was felt, very rightly, to be an unjustifiable invasion of private rights, and was modified again and again until it came to mean nothing.

THE Department of Justice is pushing the Star Route investigation with vigor; and there is every reason to believe that the authors of these criminalities will not escape the punishment they deserve. That the Ring are in distress, is shown by the passionate outcries of Mr. GEORGE C. GORHAM in Mr. BRADY's newspaper. Mr. GORHAM is especially grieved that the Postmaster should retain in the public service a man who has uttered so many slanders upon the President, as has Mr. A. W. GIBSON. Mr. GARFIELD is thankful, no doubt, for so much sympathy from the newspaper and the man who six weeks ago could hardly find words abusive enough to describe the President's attitude toward Mr. CONKLING. Yet he makes no sign, and allows his unfriend, Mr. GIBSON, to go straight on in unearthing the Star Route villainies. As a matter of course, the prosecution of these plunderers will be warmly contested. But the Government has secured able legal talent to conduct the cases before the Grand Jury, and afterwards in the courts. The trials probably will take rank among the most important in our legal history.

MR. SAMUEL J. RANDALL is so fond of political management of an underhand sort, that his long retirement from the public observation suggests an inquiry as to what game he is pursuing at present. His share in the Louisiana transaction of 1876, his bargains with the New York delegation for the Speakership, his effort to drill the Democratic Congressmen from Pennsylvania into voting for Mr. WOOD's tariff, and his attempt to manage Mr. MAHONEY and his Repudiationist Democrats last summer, are all parts of a tortuous career, which has not yet done with its twisting. It seems Mr. RANDALL thinks there is still a chance that he may be the Speaker of the next House of Representatives. If a good bargain can be driven with certain Greenbacker members, and if certain elections turn out as they ought, the Democrats, he thinks, may organize the next House after all. Mr. RANDALL deals freely in peradventures, and on one of these he is sure to fail. He counts on the vote of the Rev. J. HYATT SMITH of Brooklyn, and he will not get it. Mr. SMITH, apart from his Greenback notions, is a sound Republican, and a good Protectionist, as well as an honest man. He is not for sale, and any Democratic plan which depends upon him, may as well be abandoned at once.

THE election in the Second District of South Carolina was not contested by the Republicans, because they maintain that as the gentleman for whom they voted last fall was legally elected, the death of his competitor, although he received at that time the certificate of election, cannot alter the case. It is charged that in their eagerness, or through force of habit, the Democrats even in this instance had recourse to the methods by which so many political contests in that State have been decided of late years. In some voting precincts they report a larger majority than there are legal voters.

MR. EDWARD ATKINSON, we observe, does not regard with great hopefulness the future of the cotton manufacture in the South. Mr. ATKINSON is so high an authority in all matters relating to the manufacture of cotton, that his opinion in such a point is entitled to great weight. It must be remembered, however, that there are two considerations which may have a tendency to warp his judgment. The first is his close interest in the cotton manufacture of Massachusetts. It is natural for a Bay State man to think that no other water-power is so good for a cotton-mill as is the Merrimac. The second is that Mr. ATKINSON is a Free Trader, and naturally shares in the Free Trade notion, that our tariff is not beneficial to the less advanced sections of the country. We are glad—much as we respect Mr. ATKINSON—to see that the Southern people reject his opinion with a scorn based on experience. The cotton manufacture has already succeeded in the South; and the time will come when the splendid water-power of the Carolinas and of Georgia, will be as busy as any in the North in spinning and weaving this great staple. It is to the South, not to New England, that the decay of Lancashire will transfer this vast industry. The chief obstacle to Southern manufacture is the disposition born of slavery—to regard work as disgraceful or at least ungentlemanly. As fast as hard necessity expels this folly from the blood of the new generation, the South will become a country of great industries,—let us hope, without losing the urbanities and courtesies of her old-fashioned society.

WE are glad to see that the Republicans of Virginia show little disposition to fall into line as Mr. MAHONE's supporters. The State committee have issued an address denouncing the proposal, and calling a convention to put a Republican ticket in the field. This we regard as the only sound and sensible policy for the party. Its own self respect should forbid its acceptance of the leadership of such men as Mr. MAHONE. His whole following, as shown by the vote in the November election, is not much more than one-fifth of the voters of the State. It is not half so great as is that of the Republican party; and when, last November, it might have been employed to secure Virginia to the national Republican ticket, it was cast for General HANCOCK. And now this Democratic faction of Repudiators expects to secure the support of the Republican party by the offer of a less than second-rate office on the State ticket.

THE deadlock at Albany bids fair to be as tiresome as was that at Harrisburg, without the interest which there attached to the solid and strenuous resistance on each side. Mr. CONKLING's friends and the Democrats both see their gain in delay, and if possible adjournment; while the Administration men, unlike the Independents at Harrisburg, still scatter their forces over a goodly number of candidates. A revival of the public's flagging interest was effected by the charge that Senator SESSIONS had attempted to bribe Mr. BRADLEY of the House, to abandon Mr. CONKLING for Mr. DEPEW. The story had nothing improbable in it. Mr. SESSIONS is not a man whose record lifts him above the very suspicion of such an act. Mr. DEPEW's candidacy has the support of an interest which does not always abstain from such appeals to the pocket. Mr. BRADLEY is described by some of his enemies as a man whose legislative hands are not clean. He is, therefore, just the person who would be selected for such an experiment. His story has nothing inconsistent or incoherent in it, and the only suspicious feature in it, so far as we can see, is the promptness with which he found Mr. SHARPE alone in Vice President ARTHUR's room at the Delavan, where he went to leave with him the \$2,000 which he declared Mr. SESSIONS had just given him. That is the only feature which seems to confirm the counter charge of conspiracy on the part of the friends of Mr. CONKLING. On the other hand Mr. SESSIONS gives Mr. BRADLEY's story his full and explicit contradiction. His story also is coherent and consistent, and his credit is rather the better of the two. He is certainly the more generally believed; and Mr. DEPEW's vote, so far from decreasing since this charge was brought, has risen until he has the support of more than half the body of Republican voters. This may indicate that there are grounds for the general disbelief of Mr. BRADLEY's story, which are not so easily perceived at a distance; or it may be merely one of the many symptoms of Mr. CONKLING's unpopularity, and of the distrust felt toward Mr. ARTHUR and others of his friends. But we know of nothing in Mr. CONKLING's career which suggests the possibility that he could take part in such a conspiracy as is alleged.

THE bad blunder made by the Governor of Utah, in giving the certificate of election to Mr. CAMPBELL, the gentile candidate for the representative of the Territory in Congress, has led to a controversy which is still going forward. As the Governor avowedly based his action on the supposed fact that Mr. CANNON is not a naturalized citizen, but an alien, Mr. ADAMS, clerk of the House of Representatives, very properly refused to recognize this certificate, as Congress, not the Governor, is the judge of the qualifications of its members. As this enables Mr. CANNON to draw the salary of delegate, and obliges Mr. CAMPBELL to contest his seat, the latter is very indignant, and is taking steps to obtain a judicial decision on the question of Mr. CANNON's citizenship. A hundred such decisions would not affect the matter one jot, for nobody but Congress can decide the question raised, and until it has pronounced its opinion, Mr. ADAMS does well to hold the matter as *sub lite*. In this he has the support of the great body of both parties, although a good number of Kentucky Democrats are taking Mr. CAMPBELL's side of the controversy, because of his connection with that state.

NEW HAMPSHIRE has wisely decided not to elect a United States Senator through this legislature. The United States law prescribes that the choice shall be made by the legislature last elected before the vacancy occurs. But in New Hampshire this legislature does not meet for some three months after the vacancy has occurred, and the Senate has been in session. The State Supreme Court and Senate agreed in holding that in these circumstances the election should be held at the last session of the legislature held before the vacancy occurs. But the letter of the law seems to forbid this, and the House has refused to go into an election. It surely is the duty of Congress to see that the legislation on this subject is not such as to deprive any state, for three months, of its lawful representation in the Senate.

In North Carolina there is a curious complication of parties, growing out of the vote of the Democratic Legislature to submit the ques-

tion of Prohibition to the people. The Republicans have taken advantage of this to declare themselves the opponents of Prohibition; and we have in this State the strange spectacle of the Republicans in alliance with the liquor interest, while the Democrats oppose it. In the back counties of the State, there is a large population which distills apple whiskey for family use, without consulting the national Government in the matter of paying revenue duties. They are chiefly poor whites, though of a less degraded type than is found in the immediate vicinity of the plantations in the lowlands. Their vote, if combined with that of the negroes, would give the Republicans the control of the State, unless some method should be found of evading the will of the majority. It is felt that the Republicans have made a movement which may have very serious results in the politics of the State. In view of the conduct of the Democrats of North Carolina in recent years, it is difficult for a Northerner to feel any sympathy for them. But it certainly will be a deplorable situation if the combined ignorance, white and black, of the Commonwealth is to have the control of its affairs.

THE success of the Committee of One Hundred in Philadelphia has led to a similar organization among the Democrats of Baltimore; and at once the local machine imitated Davy Crockett's coon, and "came down." The committee's nominee for Mayor, Ex-Senator Whyte, has been accepted by the regular party convention, and this municipality also is to have a chance of better government. Our Philadelphia committee's influence is seen in the amendments just made in the rules of the Republican party. In the face of the opposition of Mr. WILLIAM B. MANN, it has been ruled that any citizen may vote in a Republican primary, who can say he voted the Republican ticket at the last state or national election, and that he need not pledge himself to vote for the ticket now to be placed in nomination. This is a distinct advance in our political methods, as is the new rule forbidding office-holders to act as officers of the primaries. If these rules should go into force, they, together with the stringent law for the protection of such elections, which passed the last legislature, may lead to a thorough reform in this part of our political economy.

The Tribune of New York continues its efforts to disclose the depths of its wilful ignorance on the subject of Charity Organization, while it refuses to print any communication correcting its misstatements or expressing the true principles of the movement. It contrasts the Philadelphia society with that of London, on the ground that LORD SHAFTESBURY, on behalf of the latter, deprecates its becoming the sole channel through which private charity shall reach the poor, while the Philadelphia society is said to ask that people will send to it all they have to give, whether money or goods. There is no such contrast between the two societies. Their aims, principles and methods are closely similar, if not identical. The Philadelphia society does not seek to check the direct flow of private charity to the poor. On the contrary, it places its machinery of investigation at the disposal of all private persons who wish to relieve certain cases of distress, but are not sure of their exact merits. And it is used largely in this way by the benevolent people of this city. The only giving to the poor which it discourages, is the lazy habit of giving to people you want to get rid of, and of whose character and claims you know nothing. On every relief ticket it places the intimation, that if the householder who gives the ticket to a beggar wishes to relieve the applicant himself, the Society will send him back after finding he is worthy of relief. And exactly in the line of Lord Shaftesbury's protest is the Philadelphia statement to which *The Tribune* most objects, that an ideal ward organization would confine its outlays to the simple cost of administration, by securing relief from private persons and from existing societies to every needy applicant. This is the financial side of the work merely, and the financial is the smallest part of it. The great work of the society is the work of organizing systematic and constant visitation of the poor by the best women of the city, rich or poor. Of course *The Tribune* puts on the Charity Organization Society the blame of Mrs. Aaronson's pitiful case. The Society had nothing whatever to do with the case as it was not brought to their cognizance in any way. The blame really falls on charities organized and endowed by the people of this city expressly to take care of such cases, which turned this poor woman from their doors because she did not bring her marriage certificate.

THE death of Dr. H. LENOX HODGE, of this city, in the prime of his life, deprives us of the services of a man of rare public spirit and great capacities, who had struck many roots into the professional, social and charitable life of the city. The University, the Presbyterian Church, the Children's Hospital, the Presbyterian Hospital, the Charity Organization Society, and his large circle of patients, have sustained a common loss in the death of this "beloved physician."

COMPETENT observers pronounce that the present is a period of almost unexampled bitterness between English parties. The language used

by each of the other is such as would have been impossible in the times when Lord DERBY and Lord PALMERSTON were the rival leaders. It reminds one of the bitterness of the years which preceded the passage of the first Reform Bill. Much of this is due to the attitude of each party toward the questions of foreign politics, but far more to the Irish Land Bill. The Tories regard this measure as little less than treasonable, and denounce it as a measure of spoliation and virtual socialism. Under the leadership of Lord SALISBURY they are coming to regard its rejection by the Lords and a consequent dissolution of Parliament, as both desirable and necessary. But they do not mean to let it pass the Commons unquestioned. They are the authors of by far the greater part of the thousand amendments, of which notice has been given, and whose discussion will last at least until Christmas. Mr. PARNELL has declared his purpose to offer no obstruction to the passage of the bill through the committee of the whole. The Home Rule Amendments are offered in good faith, and cover a few great points, such as the better establishment of free sale. If they are rejected, he cannot vote for the measure on its final passage; but he declines to resist its passage by any kind of needless delay.

In sharp contrast to this sensible position are the temper and acts of a few Irish fanatics, who are doing everything in their power to bring their country's cause into contempt. Their last exploit was an attempt to blow up the Liverpool town hall, with a lead pipe charged with explosives. It will give nothing but satisfaction to even the decided Nationalists to see these madmen caught and punished as they deserve. Mr. O'DONOVAN ROSSA still claims the credit of these follies. He even assumes for his little faction the honor of having had the British ship of war "Doterel" blown up in the Strait of Magellan. It is quite certain that this was a falsehood. The "Doterel" was sent to sea with her magazine partly full of gun cotton and other explosive substances for the manufacture of shell. A slight explosion, probably of a pipe in the steam boiler, imparted to these combustibles a shock which caused them to blow up the vessel. Mr. ROSSA, therefore, cannot have on his conscience the blood of the many poor sailors who died so suddenly and to no purpose, Irish or English.

THE meagre reports of the Irish troubles which reach us by telegraph, give but a faint idea of the disorder which prevails throughout the country, and of the deep anxiety with which English politicians are watching the course of events. There is force enough in Ireland to preserve order, if force could preserve it. The Government is entrusted with exceptional powers, which ought to be quite sufficient for the purpose. But when the whole body of five millions of people are in a state of intense excitement, and every point in the three southern provinces may become at any moment the scene of disturbance and riot verging on armed rebellion, soldiers and policemen do not count for much. The country is in ruins, socially and politically. Mr. FORSTER and Mr. GLADSTONE, like the *doctrinaire* statesman who plunged France into the revolution, have many fine theories but no practical plan for putting an end to the disturbances. English rule in Ireland has culminated in a state of disorder so violent as to amount to a confessed bankruptcy of the resources of government. Sooner or later they must let Ireland govern herself, for it is now proved to the satisfaction of the world that English ideas and English statesmen do not suffice for it. So long as the Irish were weak, disorganized and ignorant, they were managed almost as easily as were the French peasants under LOUIS XIV. But the day when her English rulers could count on the Irish nation's incapacity for resistance is gone by. Ireland is an impoverished country. But her people have ideas. They have organization. They have trusted leaders. They have valuable external support. The independence of the country is therefore only a question of time.

OF course the Land League is blamed by the landlord organs on both sides of the Ocean, for Irish disorders. Up to the passage of the Coercion Laws and the arrest of MICHAEL DAVITT, the League had a certain responsibility for the peace of the country. Mr. FORSTER relieved them of that responsibility when he sent their most trusted leaders to jail. He undertook to manage Ireland, not only without them, but in their despite. A fine job he has made of it. Of course, he is told that he has not been vigorous enough. The *Times* exhorts him to have the soldiers and police slaughter the next mob. It believes in the DROGHEDA policy for Ireland, as Mr. CARLYLE believed in it. It would like him to treat the rioters to some rounds of the buckshot with which the Irish have associated the name of the Quaker Secretary. This is the course which "strong Government" always runs. Rigor breeds an appetite for still greater rigor. If Mr. FORSTER has lost his senses, he will take the advice of *The Times*, and then within a fortnight he will have to meet armed insurrections in every barony of Ireland. Perhaps he can put down the insurrections, as was done before. But Irish insurrection does not stay down, when put down, and each new insurrection leaves a heritage of that bitter hatred of England and of all things English, which statesmen of Mr. GLADSTONE's school profess to regard as the worst feature of the Irish situation.

THERE are a good many people on our side of the Ocean who are ready to repeat and re-echo an opinion which Mr. JOHN BRIGHT may pronounce on almost any subject. They are now retailing his recent censure of Irish inactivity in the matter of establishing manufactures, and especially his wonderful statement that no new manufacture has been established in Ireland for a hundred years past. The ignorance of Irish industrial history implied in this statement would be disgraceful in an American editor, much more in an English statesman. A hundred years ago Ireland was busy in establishing new manufactures. Her most severe and cynical critic, the Earl of CLARE, admitted that she was making greater advances as a manufacturing country than was any other part of Europe. She went on in that career until the infamous Union of 1801 deprived her of self-government, against the resistance and protest of every class of the Irish people. The Act of Union contained provisions for the destruction of every industry in Ireland, except agriculture. It laid them open, one by one, to those peculiarly English methods of competition, which Mr. TREMENER described in his famous report to Parliament on the strikes in the Black Country. The story of their fall is told by Judge BYLES, from materials furnished him by Councillor BUTT. Again and again Ireland has struggled to resume her status as a country of manufactures. She has been refused, of course, that legislative protection which even Mr. MILL describes as a fair and just way of naturalizing industries in a country in which they do not already exist. National leagues were formed, whose members pledged themselves to use no article of wear which was not of Irish make. These were broken down chiefly through the influence of Mr. O'CONNELL, who shared the Free Trade opinions of his friends among the English Liberals. The Home Rule movement was started by Mr. BUTT, with this as its leading idea. Mr. PARNELL has lost sight of it, but some of his followers have not. One Irish newspaper proposes to use the League's organization to BOYCOTT foreign manufactures of every kind.

THE rejection of the *scrutin de liste* by the French Senate recalls the circumstances of the rejection of the first Reform Bill by the English House of Peers. The measure now in question is substantially a Reform Bill. It proposes the readjustment of the representation to the population of the several districts; and there are many gross inequalities which call for this readjustment. But instead of putting the new distribution on substantially the same footing as the old, the bill proposes to substitute everywhere very large for very small constituencies. The political and administrative districts of France, as everybody knows, date from the first French Revolution. These "departments" have no historical character, being intended to obliterate the old provinces, and to break with that past which their names recalled. But the election districts are still smaller subdivisions, called "arrondissements," and for these M. GAMBETTA wishes to substitute the vote of whole departments. In his opinion, and those who think with him, it would be better for France to have the elections effected by larger districts, so as to efface minorities more completely, give a more effective expression to the will of the majority, and exclude from national representation mere local and parochial sentiments and interests. If he could, he would have the *Corps Legislatif* chosen by the vote of all France on a single ticket. Failing that, he accepts the departments as the nearest to it that he can come. We believe that in the long run, M. GAMBETTA will succeed just as EARL GRAY and LORD RUSSELL succeeded with the Reform Bill. He can at any time secure a joint convention of the Senate and the *Corps* for the revision of the Constitution, and outvote the opposition to his plan. But he will not owe his victory to Republican votes only. A considerable number of the Republicans of the *Corps* voted against the measure, and only the support of the BONAPARTISTS secured its passage. For that support M. GAMBETTA distinctly bid, by comparing the departmental vote to the *plebiscite*, which is regarded as the especial glory of the Imperial regime. M. GAMBETTA may succeed; but does he deserve success? The substitution of large constituencies will tend to make every change in public sentiment a revolution. A transfer of power from one party to another, will be the call into power of a party which has had, while in the minority, no influence on the course of legislation, and which is hostile to all that has been done, because it was effaced and had no responsibility. Besides, the theory of self-government, of honestly popular government, requires that the weight exerted by minorities shall be increased rather than diminished. Majority rule is not the rule of the people, but of a limited part of the people. It is accepted as the nearest to popular rule that can be got. Anything that promotes the representation of the minority, brings it nearer to the ideal of popular government. Anything that diminishes the fair weight of minorities, makes the government less popular in its character. The wisest students of the present and the prospects of Democratic government have been planning to secure the representation of minorities. M. GAMBETTA is anxious to efface them.

THE curious investigation which is going on at Constantinople with reference to the death of Sultan Abd-ul-Aziz is open to various explanations. The one current in the city itself is that the present Sultan

has discovered that the deposition and murder of Abd-ul-Aziz was part of a great conspiracy for the extermination of the house of Othman, and the elevation of the Sherif of Mecca,—a descendant of the Prophet, to the rank of Caliph. It is said that the complete execution of the plan was prevented only by the mysterious assassination of the two ringleaders, a few days after they had put the ex-Sultan to death. This story lacks coherency. The Sherif of Mecca was well-known to represent the most reactionary type of Mohammedan belief, short of Wahabism. His elevation to the Caliphate would mean the triumph of the Ulema,—the clerical Toryism of Turkey. But the person who is charged with being the chief surviving accomplice in the conspiracy is Midhat Pasha, the reformer whom the Ulema hate. Another theory is that the whole story of the conspiracy is an invention on the part of the younger Pashas, to get the older men put out of their way. A third possible theory is that the prosecution of the murderers of Abd-ul-Aziz—for there is little doubt that he was murdered,—represents a revival of Russian influence in Constantinople. Long experience shows that the Porte must lean on somebody, and that she is not indisposed to try Russia when the other powers fail her. England has deserted her; France is indifferent; Austria-Hungary is dreaded as the most dangerous of enemies. So Russia, it is not impossible, is resuming her old place as the virtual protector of the Sultan. She held that place in the last weeks of the reign of Abd-ul-Aziz. She was securing from the Porte concessions of every kind, in spite of the opposition of the Tory Government of England, then represented at Constantinople by Sir Henry Elliott. The deposition and death of the Sultan was the beginning of the new policy which resulted first in the Servian and then in the Russian war. So exactly did the change coincide with English views of Turkish policy, that the English were credited with being the authors of the virtual revolution. It was said, not merely among the Turks, but even among the European diplomats of the Turkish capital, that SIR HENRY ELLIOTT had put ABD-UL-AZIZ out of the way. At any rate, whoever did it was no friend of Russia's, and may count on having to reckon with the Muscovite at the first favorable opportunity.

THE news from China is not favorable to the maintenance of the pacific policy which has marked the recent history of the country. It is true that Russia has at last relinquished the valuable province of Kuldja, whose unjust retention threatened war on the frontier and the Pacific. But of the two remarkable women who have governed China during the minority of this and of the preceding Emperors, one is dead and the other is seriously ill. Her death would throw the control of affairs into the hands of the Mongol or war party, and would undo many of the advances which China has made toward a better understanding with the rest of the world.

GENERAL GRANT AND "MY FRIEND."

WE have always desired to think well and to speak well of General GRANT. We are not behind the most stalwart Republicans in our desire to have the greatest of our captains stand high in the esteem of his countrymen, and of mankind. When Senator JONES saw fit to give to the public the peevish Mexican letter, in which Mr. GRANT expressed his unqualified sympathy for Senator CONKLING, our comment upon it was that its author had not written it for the public eye, and that it was unfair to discuss the epistle as though he had meant to throw his influence into the dispute. But it seems that he does not care for this kind of defence. The fretful and undignified utterances of the Mexican letter he has been repeating at every opportunity since his return from Mexico, and in a recent interview its very phrases are reiterated and made still worse by additions and comments, which must grieve the truest friends of the ex-President.

Mr. GRANT then throws his sword into the CONKLING scale with all his energy. His views on that subject are not his private opinions, communicated to intimate friends, and reserved from the public out of respect for President GARFIELD, and for his own position in the Republic. They are embodied in a *pronunciamento*, whose purpose is to weaken the credit of the Administration and to strengthen Mr. CONKLING in his war upon it. And those who would fain have counted Mr. GRANT out of this unhappy dispute, are forced by his own act to choose between the President and the ex-President. It is impossible even to pass over in silence the utterances of the latter, without seeming to accept his criticism of the former.

We think Mr. GRANT's published remarks, like his letter, are especially unhappy as recalling to the public recollection many of the most unfortunate features of his own career. More than any other side of Mr. GRANT's administration, his utter want of penetration into char-

acter surprised and alienated the people of the country. Not only could he not see for himself; he would use nobody else to see for him. He gathered around his person a set of men whom the public hated to observe in his society. He was hand-in-glove with Mr. MURPHY, Mr. BELKNAP, with thieves of the Whiskey Ring, with turfmen of scanty reputation. And no amount of protest from persons whose judgment he should have respected, would lead him to change his opinion of any of these worthies. Once he made up his mind to like a man, he could not be turned aside from his purpose. He thrust some into places of trust and responsibility and kept them there in spite of the most urgent protests from all who knew their true characters. He kept Consul-General BUTLER in power in Egypt, even after the State Department knew that the American missionaries to the Copts had been forced to obtain naturalization as British subjects in order to escape from the scoundrel's jurisdiction, and in sheer despair of having him removed. He thrust another scoundrel into the responsible post of Indian Commissioner; and when the Board of eminent philanthropists and business men whom the President had asked to supervise Indian affairs, forced his withdrawal by threatening to send in their resignations, Mr. GRANT wrote him out a first-rate certificate of good character and attention to duty.

Happy, indeed, is the man whom General GRANT accepts as his friend. That man can do no evil in the General's sight. He may break all the Commandments, and still be ranked as a paragon of all the perfections. And thrice unhappy is the person who brings an accusation against such a friend, or stands in the way of his getting what he wants. That Board which drove out the Indian Commissioner found that to their cost. One by one, beginning with WILLIAM WELSH, they were jostled and shouldered from their posts, until none were left except a politic few, who had taken care not to take any part in the manly and honest action of the majority.

This idiosyncrasy is one of the most marked in Mr. GRANT's character. It is one which is amenable to no reason, and hardly to the strongest and clearest proof. It is the one which was at the root of nearly all the worst scandals of his administration. It detracted more than did any other circumstance from his popularity. It decided myriads of voters never again to support his candidacy for the Presidency. The memory of it, after the lapse of four years, was more powerful than any arguments drawn from history or tradition, to defeat the Third Term movement. And now that people would like to forget it, and the stains it inflicted on the national honor, he takes the greatest pains to recall it to popular attention.

In the recent declarations Senator CONKLING is "my friend." That is enough. That lifts him to the pedestal of honor beside the worthies for whom Mr. GRANT wrecked his popularity and tarnished his good name. "My friend" can do no wrong. He is an all but omnipotent power in politics. He saved Mr. GARFIELD from defeat in October last. He has been the meek and humble representative of senatorial dignity, while insults were poured upon him from the White House. "This man ROBERTSON" is a thing of contempt, since he stands in "my friend's" way. And "my friend" can do nothing foolish. He resigned because he meant it. He was going to retire from politics. But he found he could not. The country was full of offensive comments on his resignation, all originating from the White House. So he had to seek a re-election, purely in self-defence. And he will get it.

Such is the substance of Gen. GRANT's attempt to give his countrymen the true bearings of our political situation. They show that he is just the same Ulysses as he was five years ago, with just the same incapacity to see anything outside of the refracting medium of personal relations. The judicious reader will find more between the lines of these utterances than in the lines themselves, and will feel a new thankfulness that the efforts of such men as "this man ROBERTSON" saved the Republican party from a terrible blunder at Chicago.

On one point only Mr. GRANT attempts to put his case on ground of principle. He steps forward as the champion of the principle of "Senatorial courtesy." He says: "There is, or should be a great deal in Senatorial courtesy, which means simply this, that when the President makes an appointment in any State, and it fails to elicit the approval of the Senators from that State, the matter ends there, and the nomination is rejected. If the Republican Senators from any State

object to any nomination, the rest of the party is expected to support them, without exception." Such is the rule so long as "my friends" are the objecting Senators. But when the objecting Senators are not in that honored list, but the nomination is made in the interest of one of "my friends," what is the rule then? When Mr. GRANT sent in the name of Mr. SIMMONS as Collector of the Port of Boston, everybody knew it was in the interest of "my friend" Mr. BENJAMIN F. BUTLER. Both the Massachusetts Senators, and nearly all her Congressmen united in a formal protest against that nomination. But "my friend" Mr. ROSCOE CONKLING and others undertook to carry that nomination through the Senate, and did so. Mr. CONKLING spoke in advocacy of it, and all those Senators who regarded themselves as having especial claims to be counted among the friends of Mr. GRANT, voted with Mr. CONKLING. The rule as to Senatorial courtesy seems to vary a good deal according to the effect its application would have on the political fortunes of "my friends."

On one point, General GRANT's statements are supposed to have some historical importance. He denies the whole story of the "Treaty of Mentor," and shows its impossibility. But this is nothing new, as he did the same in a speech in Brooklyn last October. And yet Mr. CONKLING's especial champions, in letters to the *Herald*, of New York, have seen fit to serve up this *crambe ter decocta* as yet another illustration of Mr. GARFIELD's faithlessness.

If Mr. GRANT is open to reason, he will see that he has made a bad blunder. He has thrown himself against the solid sentiment of the American people, in an instance in which the people are clearly in the right, and his friend as clearly in the wrong. To those who desire the diminution of his influence with the people, nothing can be more satisfactory than this effort to whittle himself down to the size of Mr. ROSCOE CONKLING.

SOME RESULTS FROM THE CENSUS. V.

THE census office is day by day and week by week unfolding to us many interesting facts in regard to our vast domain. In the first bulletins issued it told the story of our population; how we had increased in number during the last eight decades; the relative proportion of the sexes, the number of native and foreign born and the number of colored and white. Then came some of the special works—the wealth, debt and taxation of our States, Counties and Cities—in this regard even the school districts, numbering 105,000, have been reached. Mr. SWANK's bulletin on the iron trade—a mere precursor of his final report—has been already mentioned in the *THE AMERICAN* and was, in itself, a valuable document. Last week we reviewed Mr. NORTH's bulletin on the daily press of the United States, and some months ago Mr. ATKINSON's report on the manufacture of cotton, and Mr. WYCKOFF's preliminary exhibit of our growing silk industries.

But there are constantly being issued other bulletins of the greatest interest. For example, the distribution of population in latitude and longitude, from which we learn that no less than 41,735,943, or 83 per cent. of the population live north of the 36th parallel, which runs just south of Nashville, Tennessee; while over 92 per cent. of the population, or 46,184,936 live east of the 95th meridian, or east of Kansas City. The most populous part of the country may be indicated by an imaginary line on the 43d parallel, beginning on the 70th meridian, and running west to the 90th, then south to the 38th parallel, east to the 76th Meridian, and following the coast to the place of the beginning. Within this area we should include 93 populated squares of latitude and longitude with a population of 24,878,411.

In a like way, we ascertain from the Bulletin on the height above sea level at which the population live, that one-fifth of our population lives below 100 feet—for example, along the immediate seaboard, and in the swampy and alluvial regions of the South; more than two-fifths live below 500 feet; more than three-fourths below 1000, while 97 per cent. live below 2000 feet. The portion of population of the United States engaged in manufacturing, and most of that portion engaged in the culture of cotton, rice and sugar, live in the area below an elevation of 500 feet above the sea-level. The interval between the 1,000 and 500 foot contours comprises the greater part of the prairie States and the grain producing States of the North-west. Above 6000 feet, the population is almost entirely engaged in the pursuit of mining, and the

greater part is located in Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada and California.

The classification of the population by drainage areas is primarily based, of course, on the two oceans and the great basin; secondly, by sections of the coast; third, by the principal rivers, the rivers of each section of the coast being arranged under that section, and the branches of a river being placed under the main river. Of the total population of the United States in 1880, 97 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. live in the Atlantic slope, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in the great basin, and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the Pacific Slope. The population of the great Mississippi Valley alone being 21,821,254, an increase of 5,389,399 souls since 1870. This extremely popular form which the census of 1880 has taken, will interest many in these statistics who have heretofore given little or no attention to the results, save the total count of the population.

Leaving these scientific results, we shall next call attention to some recently published industrial statistics. It is a curious fact that one of the first subsidies ever asked from Congress was to aid in the establishment of a glass factory in the United States. The petition was made by John F. Amelung, in June, 1790, and the committee reported, authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States to make a loan not exceeding \$8,000, he giving satisfactory security for the reimbursement of the same, within a certain number of years. In the debate which followed the presentation of this resolution, a history of the rise and progress of this gentleman's exertions in establishing an American glass manufactory was given. It commenced in 1775. He seems to have brought into the country upward of 200 persons, and had expended at this time over \$100,000 in this undertaking. Owing to a variety of accidents, and particularly the extraordinary rise in the price of grains, he declared that he now found himself "greatly embarrassed in prosecuting the business," but if I can be so far patronized by the Government as to be favored with a loan of \$15,000 or \$20,000, it would afford me such relief as would enable me to surmount every difficulty."

Congress, however, did not look upon this appeal favorably. Some of the members doubted the constitutionality of the power of Congress to loan money in this way, while others objected to it on account of the precedent it would establish; while yet others urged that the encouragement and assistance could be applied for with more propriety to the State Government. One enthusiastic member of Congress gave an account of the manufactory and said, "I have seen the glass made in it, which is superior to any ever produced in America. "He contended that Congress had a right, by the Constitution, to loan the money. He cited several instances in point. He expatiated on the merit of the petitioner "in embarking such large property to prosecute a business of so general utility," and pointed out the consequences which would result from a "failure of this application, which would be greatly injurious to the petitioner and to the public."

The report, however, was negatived and the glass industry had to struggle into existence without direct aid from Government, until we now have, according to the Tenth Census, the following glass establishments.

Classes	No. of Establishments.	Capital.	Total Number Furnaces.	Total Number Pots.	Total Number Employees.	Total Value Materials.	Total Wages Paid.	Total Value Products.
Plate-glass	6	\$2,587,000	10	116	956	\$438,457	\$292,253	\$868,305
Window Glass,	56	4,873,155	86	747	3,890	1,849,530	2,139,536	5,047,313
Glassware,	82	7,189,278	154	1,459	12,387	3,289,064	4,446,217	9,534,020
Green Glass	50	4,766,166	80	493	6,589	2,414,252	2,234,295	5,563,826
Total,	194	19,415,599	330	2,815	23,822	7,991,303	9,112,301	21,013,464

The above table does not include the furnaces that made no glass in the census year, and these establishments numbering in all thirty-four, with a capital stock of \$626,000, and having an exhibit of three hundred and sixty-nine pots, are given in another table, as are also seventy-five establishments with a capital of 424, 100, with an exhibit of two hundred and thirty-eight pots which were building and not completed in the census year.

In his report, Mr. WEEKS claims that the division into classes in 1870 was very imperfect. On the assumption, however, that the classes "plate glass," "glass-ware not specified," and "window-glass," of the ninth census, included the same establishments as are classified in his report as plate, window glassware, and green glass factories, the following comparison may be made:

	1880.	1870.
Number of establishments,	194	154
Employés,	23,822	15,367
Capital,	\$19,415,599	\$13,826,142
Wages paid,	9,112,301	7,589,110
Materials used,	7,991,303	5,904,365
Value of products,	21,013,464	18,470,507

In noting the distribution of the glass factories of the United States, we find that Indiana and Missouri have the three most extensive plate-glass establishments, having a capital of \$2,292,500, employing 863 persons, using \$411,658 worth of material, paying \$280,850 in wages, and having a total product of \$831,400. The other two States—Kentucky and Massachusetts—have three establishments, with a capital of \$295,000, employing 93 hands, using \$26,799 worth of material, paying \$11,403 in wages, and having a total product of \$49,355. The window glass manufactories seem to be distributed much more widely, and the \$4,873,155 of capital is invested in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Maryland, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri and Iowa, Pennsylvania standing first with \$2,279,800 of the \$4,873,155 of the capital invested, and the other States following in the order given. In the manufacture of glassware, Pennsylvania stands first, with thirty-nine of the eighty-two establishments, and more than one-half of the total capital; New York second, and Massachusetts third. Of the fifty green-glass manufactories having a capital of \$4,766,166, New Jersey has fourteen, Pennsylvania twelve, and with those of New York, a capital of \$3,626,166; the balance of establishments is distributed among Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Maryland and California, with a capital of \$1,140,000.

PUBLIC OPINION.

THE SOUTHERN PRESS AND MR. DAVIS'S WORK.

MR. JEFFERSON DAVIS'S history of the "Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government," is generally regarded by Southern journals as "the most important contribution to the history of the late war yet made from the Southern side." A few newspapers, notably the *Galveston (Texas) News*, regret the publication of the work, on the ground that unpleasant controversies will follow. The *News* argues that "a feeling exists in the minds of very many people, both North and South, that the bickering which is distractedly going on between a certain few of the leaders on both sides of the late struggle is doing more to keep alive the ill-feeling engendered by the war than all else besides." Mr. Davis, in his work, adds fuel to this flame, thinks the *News*, and it would therefore have been better if he had not published the book at this time. "We may expect a wordy war to break out immediately between several distinguished leaders," says the *Memphis (Tenn.) Avalanche*, and the *Dallas (Texas) Herald* wonders "whether it would not have been better if Mr. Davis had left his history unpublished until after his death."

On the other hand, the *Vicksburg (Miss.) Herald* is of the opinion that everything which throws light upon the war will be beneficial to the people. "All persons who feel the slightest interest in the character and structure of our Government, and in the causes of our late internal strife, as well as its conduct," says the *Herald*, should study Mr. Davis's presentation of facts, and his argument upon various questions. It is certain that our people can find a great deal of less valuable reading than Mr. Davis's book. It may be fairly assumed, that so far no other work concerning the war has been written that will go down into history as an authority, criticised as it may, and doubtless will be." The desirability that the leading participants in the war should make a record of their acts, for use by those who come after, is recognized in several other criticisms, and most of the Southern journals decide that the general idea of the work is what it should be.

There is considerable diversity of opinion, however, upon the execution of the work. The *Baltimore Gazette* says: "Mr. Davis's book is careful, elaborate, and, as far as he can make a book so, dispassionate. His judgments are warped sometimes by his feelings, but he is never consciously prejudiced. His manly courage and frankness, never called seriously in question, are here emphatically shown in the aggressive character of his defence of Southern principles. He denies that the arbitrament of the sword settled anything. He maintains the holy nature of the cause for which the Southern people fought and he defends secession, not only as a right, but as the corner-stone of the only possible constitutional union. Mr. Davis has written a very interesting book and a very complete narrative of the rise and fall of the confederacy and his connection with it. The author's position in relation to those events, his sincerity and his ability, will combine to attract attention to the work." The comment of the *Richmond (Va.) Dispatch* is in a similar vein:—"It is a valuable book. It is the work of the chief of the Confederacy, who personally knew its whole public history and private, too, if there can be such a thing as the latter. It is, too, the work of a thorough scholar and experienced statesman, who was for years part of the Government which he tried to abandon. It is, in

short, from the best-informed man in the late Confederate States. We mean only as to facts—not as to military criticisms. We do not say that he knew better than Lee, or Jackson, or Johnston what ought to have been done in the field; but that, being a man of unimpeachable private character and above the suspicion that he could wilfully misrepresent anything, and having the best possible means of knowing all the facts of the history of the Confederacy, he is to them the highest authority in the world."

Mr. Davis's discussion of the doctrine of Secession has led some of the Southern newspapers to express themselves upon that now rarely-mentioned topic. "The ex-President's views upon Secession," says the *Mobile (Ala.) Register*, "have historical interest, and in this light they should be regarded. Secession itself is dead beyond the possibility of recovery, and all discussion of it is time thrown away. Nevertheless, the student should be asked to remember that Secession was not a plant whose growth was confined to the South. It flourished in New England just as slavery did, just so long as it was to the interest of the people to cultivate it. Our New England contemporaries who are pitching into Mr. Davis in such a lively manner should remember, therefore, that their own ancestors are responsible for the early development of the doctrine they now discourse of." While the *Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution* regards Secession as a dead issue, that journal thinks it perfectly proper that Mr. Davis should let the ante-bellum Southern view of the doctrine be known for the enlightenment of the student of history, and the *Macon (Ga.) Telegraph and Messenger* expresses a like opinion.

The attacks made by Mr. Davis upon General Sherman, and his strictures upon the ex-Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston, are usually condemned in the Southern press. The *Charleston (S. C.) Courier* and the *Columbia (S. C.) Register* join in upholding Mr. Davis's charges against General Sherman, but the *Knoxville (Tenn.) Chronicle*, the *Richmond (Va.) Dispatch* and other journals think the criticisms not only too severe, but altogether out of place in the work. The *New Orleans Democrat*, the *Raleigh (N. C.) News and Observer*, and the *Louisville (Ky.) Courier Journal* regard the disparagement of General Johnston as unjust, and say that "censure is wrongly applied in various instances by a critic who, perhaps, was influenced by personal feeling."

THE POLITICAL OUTLOOK IN OHIO.

Satisfaction at the Republican outlook in Ohio is expressed by most of the newspapers of that party, throughout the country. With scarcely a notable exception, the Republican journals heartily commend the convention's indorsement of President Garfield, and some of them say that there will be an easy campaign. The *Providence (R. I.) Journal* thinks that "the ticket is a good one and success is reasonably certain," while the *Chicago Tribune* regards Republican victory as assured. But a number of newspapers think that there will be a close struggle. The *Cincinnati Commercial*, the *Cincinnati Gazette*, the *Cleveland Leader*, and the *Columbus State Journal* intimate that there is need of the exercise of diligence in the campaign, while the *Chicago Inter-Ocean* raises a note of warning. "Notwithstanding the apparent harmony in Ohio," says the *Inter-Ocean*, "it will be just as well for the Republicans of that state to understand at the outset that there is any amount of hard work ahead—in fact, that 'there will be a beautiful fight all along the line.' Ohio's Republican newspapers have done much to add to the bad blood and the restlessness and doubt of the party."

Meanwhile the Democratic journals are claiming that the Republicans will be defeated. The *Cleveland Plain-Dealer*, sees "Democratic victory in the air," and the *Indianapolis (Ind.) Sentinel* is much encouraged by "the Democratic condition across the state line." "This is the year for a Democratic victory in Ohio," says the *Wheeling (West Va.) Register*, "because once in four years the Democrats carry that state. It is a very sad fact that the Democratic year in Ohio is never a Presidential year, but even an 'off,' is better than no year at all." Nor would it surprise the *Richmond (Va.) Dispatch* "if the Ohio Democrats should elect their candidate for governor next October." "They have a habit of carrying the state, when to carry it does them no good," says the *Dispatch*, "and of losing it when to lose it is to lose control of the government of the United States. We do not pretend, however, to say that a victory this year would be one of that sort. Let the Ohio Democrats elect a sound man over Governor Foster, and they will point the way to victory in 1884."

The platform proposition to submit all questions connected with the liquor traffic to the people is being discussed in and out of the state. The Prohibition organs appear to be satisfied with it, and the German newspapers in Cincinnati see nothing objectionable in it. The *Cincinnati Enquirer*, the *Cleveland Plain-Dealer*, and the *Dayton Democrat* argue, for the purpose of influencing the German voter, that the platform is inimical to the beer interest, but the *Cincinnati Volksblatt* says,—"The convention did not even indirectly make concessions to the temperance people." "The temperance plank," says the *New Haven (Conn.) Palladium*, "has had the effect of completely disarming the conservative temperance element of the state, and the support of this element for the Cleveland ticket is assured. The removal of this obstacle makes a Republican victory in October certain."

SONNET.

SPRING IN AUTUMN: A GREETING.

Thou comest on the glorious autumn's path,
 With rainbow-colored leaves beneath thy feet
 Making thy way fair, but ah! not too sweet
 For one whose every careless action hath
 Unconscious beauty:—even quick, girlish wrath
 Lights up thy cheek with tints like those we meet
 In summer dawns, when with winged feet
 The glowing earth speeds to her airy bath.
 The harvest done, a languor drowsy-deep
 Has fallen upon us: soon the oblivious snow
 Shall fold the earth with its death-angel wing.
 How numb and slow the stars above us creep!
 So thou art welcome, for in thy face grow
 Lilies and roses blooming as in spring.

GEORGE PARSONS LATHROP.

THE MODERN PUBLIC LIBRARY.

IN nothing is the contrast between the ancient and the modern world more marked than in the kind of use now made of literature. While collections of books have necessarily been a feature of civilization in all ages, the peculiarity of the libraries of our day, and especially of our country, is that they are open to the people. It is true that, so long ago as seven hundred years before Christ, the King of Assyria placed over the entrance to the royal library at Nineveh the hospitable words: "*For the inspection of my people.*" Moreover, the ten thousand brick tablets composing it, including treatises on religion, astronomy, natural history and jurisprudence, were all numbered and catalogued for reference; but they could have been of little use to the common people, because not written in the vulgar tongue. The custodian of that library appears at one time to have been a brother of the King; but the peculiar books under his charge must have been as useless to the masses as that library in the Vatican has ever been, whose keeper is to-day a brother of the Pope. In Egypt, we find a king of the XIIth Dynasty dedicating a division of his palace to a public library, over the entrance to which was written: "*The medicine of the soul.*" It is not likely, however, that his subjects in general derived much benefit from that learning which, on the banks of the Nile, was the exclusive possession of the priests. In the East, books have been written from time immemorial to conceal thought from the uninitiated and to reveal it to the wise, while the inner secrets of science were communicated only in the Eleusinian and other mysteries, and, as now in Masonry, by word of mouth. Few among the ancients suspected, for example, that the story of the twelve labors of Hercules was a fable cunningly devised by the astronomers to signify the yearly progress of the sun through the zodiac.

Of the libraries of Alexandria, Athens and Rome, we know but little, but, even when accessible to the public, want of education among the people must have limited their usefulness. In the middle ages, knowledge was a monopoly of the Church; and, while classical literature found a refuge in the monasteries, care was taken that the people should not find out too much. Such was the dread of enlightenment, that even the learned themselves communicated with each other, not only in a dead language, but more or less in parables. Before the Reformation, a man had need to think twice before he wrote once, and in reading old books, especially on alchemy, where what is said is sometimes ludicrously different from what is meant, one often meets the note "*Caute lege,*" signifying "Read carefully; search out the hidden meaning of this text." Indeed, down almost to our own time, it was confessedly for the greatest good of the smallest number that books were written and libraries were managed; and there are not wanting now some who take the view that this principle is right. Meantime, on the Continent of Europe, most of the public libraries were made up mainly of works on ascetic subjects, scholastic theology, treatises on the civil law and on the old Aristotelian philosophy; so that the number of volumes they contained is no index of their real utility. The English literature now extant is undoubtedly, as Macaulay remarked, of far more value than all the literature in existence three centuries ago. Moreover, at that time, few had access to libraries, so that, while the light was feeble, it was also hidden under a bushel. Books were chained to the shelves in the Bodleian Library, and it is only by ticket that even now a stranger can visit the British Museum.

The first to break through the traditions of the ages on these subjects was Benjamin Franklin,—that fearless thinker and true man of the people,—to whom was reserved the honor of establishing the earliest circulating library. Seizing upon the two evangelical ideas of the "Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world," and of the rain which comes down from heaven on the just and on the unjust, he gave to the Philadelphia Library, a century and a half ago, that generous motto which, on its very threshold, now greets the visitor: "*Communiter bona profundere Deorum est,*"—"It is godlike to distribute good

things impartially." Established a little later, in a modest building at Sixth and Walnut Streets, Philadelphia, the Loganian Library was the first really free library on this continent; and a hundred years elapsed before the liberal example of its founder was followed by such men as Astor, Peabody, Lenox and Rush, who saw that there was no surer way of benefiting their fellow-citizens and handing their own names down to posterity, than by providing permanent library buildings, with adequate endowments, where the priceless treasures to be found in books might afford pleasure and profit to all. The utility of such institutions was early recognized by the several States in acts exempting their buildings and books from taxation, while travellers have often remarked on the liberal spirit in which all American institutions of learning are administered. "In no country in the world," says Dr. Daniel Wilson, "are public and private libraries and collections, made available to the scientific inquirer with the same unrestrained freedom as in the United States."

Such was the condition of things in this country when, about thirty years ago, another step was taken, and a new class of public libraries, of which the one in Boston is a type, sprang up. The outgrowth of the public school system, their peculiarity is that they are supported, not by private liberality, but by municipal taxation. The idea has found such favor, that now every Northern State, except New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, has put public libraries on the footing of public schools; and towns and cities are allowed by law to tax themselves for their establishment and support. The privilege has been promptly availed of, and, under this system, not only most of the New England towns have creditable public libraries, but in the West, and especially in Chicago and Cincinnati, these institutions are taking high rank. From Maine to Kansas it is, in fact, fast becoming the work of public schools to fit pupils for that people's college, the town library. It is felt that both stand on the same footing; that the objections to one are the objections to the other, and that both vanish in the light of practical results. Citizens who contribute their money are as well satisfied with the public library as with the public school; and where they have been introduced, the vote in favor of continuing the appropriations to town libraries is practically unanimous. Even in England the idea has found favor, and, by the Acts of 1850 and 1855, two-thirds of the rate-payers in any town of over five thousand inhabitants may vote a rate of not over a penny in the pound for the establishment of a library free of all charge to the public. The Manchester and other public libraries, thus supported, are already a great success, and the system is gradually spreading throughout Great Britain.

It is in vain that some distinguished philosophers point out that the only functions of Government are to dispense justice, and to give free play to the law of the survival of the fittest. Theorists, like Mr. Richard Grant White, may deny the right to tax the people for such luxuries as free libraries, and may even declaim on the failure of the public school system; but the people do not see it. "I have sometimes thought," says Mr. J. P. Quincy, "that it would be pleasant to take an evening walk with one of those really great men (Mr. Herbert Spencer, for instance,) through the main street of a New England town, and see if he would recognize any tendency to the evils he had predicted. He would be shown the ancient bar-room (happily closed,) which an unfettered private enterprise once provided as the sole place of evening resort. Some of the older inhabitants might be summoned to give their recollections of this central rallying-place. It was the social exchange of the community, every night ablaze with light, inviting all male passers-by to try the animal comforts of spirits and tobacco. Even persons of local respectability, having nowhere else to go, were wont to stray in and stupefy themselves into endurance of the vulgar jests of the bar-keeper, and the chorus of brutal talk that must prevail when whiskey is abundant and women are left out. Our distinguished thinker would be told that this tippling-house had been closed by the fiat of a Government which no longer permits the open bar to flaunt its temptations in the face of man; and not only was the liquor-dealing citizen thus outraged, and his private enterprise remorselessly put down, but this same Government (going from bad to worse,) audaciously exceeds its proper functions by opening a spacious library, heated and lighted at the general cost. Instead of the bar-keeper and his satellites, we find modest and pleasing young women dispensing books over the counter. Here are working men, with their wives and daughters, reading in comfortable seats, or selecting volumes to make home attractive."

The picture is a pleasing one; but there are not wanting some, even in New England, who find fault. The shape their objections take is the practical one of the injury done to young persons by novel reading. Three-fourths of the circulation of public libraries, as is well known, is composed of fiction; and common sense, it is asserted, tells us that it cannot be the duty of the public to supply boys and girls with dime novels. Pomeroy, the boy murderer, acknowledged that he was a devourer of "blood and thunder" stories, while in England the "penny dreadfuls" are felt to be a curse to the community. The example, however, of a single free library—that of Germantown, which is supported by Friends, and where novels are entirely excluded—goes far to obviate this objection. Its librarian reports that even factory girls, if they cannot get novels, will read books of travel and biography. "We have thought that but

few leave because they cannot get works of fiction." The Germantown library, however, doubtless contains "Pilgrim's Progress," and perhaps the "Swiss Family Robinson," while certainly the parables of the Old and New Testament are gladly furnished to its readers. Moreover, if the worst comes to the worst, its readers can always fall back on "Abbott's History of Napoleon Bonaparte." It is all a question of drawing the line. One library may draw it at Ouida's novels, and another at those of Mrs. Southworth; but, when you pay your money, committees find it hard not to let you take your choice. The difficulty is a real and a serious one; but, after all, it is a mere difficulty, and one which time will settle. It is certainly conceivable that the usefulness of a free library may be in the inverse ratio to the circulation of its books.

The subject, looked at in any light, is an important one; and, sooner or later, the Middle and Southern States will be forced to follow the example of their more Northern brethren. We commend its consideration to the Legislature of every State which has not already passed a bill authorizing the establishment of public libraries at municipal expense. The present is an opportune time for Pennsylvania to act; and no better way of celebrating the two hundredth anniversary of the landing of William Penn could be found, than to establish a free public library in the city of Philadelphia.

SUICIDE IN AMERICA.

THE subject of suicide is one to which altogether too little attention has been paid in the United States by those whose investigation would be attended with results of positive value. Occasionally, an article or a discourse is contributed to the literature of the subject; but invariably the student betrays his incapacity, more or less pronounced, or, if he has a correct idea, fails utterly to obtain, even approximately, the data of facts without which any essay on such a topic must be robbed of most, if not all, of its value. The difficulties of the study, even under the most favorable conditions, are great. The whole science of vital statistics is as yet in its infancy; and from year to year advances are being made in the direction of accuracy and comprehensiveness, which in some measure impede the observer, unless he knows enough to allow for the percentage of error and imperfection in the earlier period under observation. Not all observers, apparently, possess this knowledge; and the increase which is really due to more accurate scrutiny, is not unfrequently taken as indicating positive progress. Even where the most favorable conditions exist, as in France,—where the population is homogeneous and not sparsely scattered over a wide extent of territory, where it is eminently conservative and not given to great migratory movements, where the administration is much centralized, the average of comfort is high, and the urban and rural elements are fairly represented in the composition of society,—the period within which comparison is possible is really so limited that it is dangerous to make sweeping deductions. Within the last generation, men have lived and developed more than the race did between 1776 and 1848, and in this period of 1776 and 1848, the advance and change were perhaps more considerable than in the preceding three centuries. Allowance for this must enter into the calculation, and into the computation of future results as well.

Hence, when we consider the studies and statistics of suicide in Europe, we are careful not to compare them too closely with American observations,—we even prefer to regard as most valuable the general deductions, or indications, and to condemn those who insist on working out results to five places of decimals. Broadly speaking, there has been a considerable—indeed, a great,—increase in the European suicide rate, and it is indisputable that the larger portion of this increase has occurred within a very recent period. When we come to consider suicide in the United States, we are first struck by the fact that there are no statistics on the subject, and that, if there did exist such a *corpus* of information, it would be of little value for purposes of intimate comparison. Newspaper statistics are worthless, though some writers have based profound arguments thereon, since they depend exclusively on the collector's diligence and the extent of the exchange list to which he has access, and which, in any case, represents a constituency of undetermined and varying dimensions. Placed in proper shape, such showings amount to something like this:

In 1879 there were 777 suicides to x people;

In 1880 there were 888 suicides to x people.

The only official statistics that are commonly obtainable are those of the health officers or coroners in the cities; but a moment's reflection shows how utterly inadequate these are. They only relate to one class of the population,—the urban class,—and they do not faithfully represent the suicide rate in that class. All our great cities contain a notable "migratory" element, as it might be styled, composed (over and above the rural population, who, in the natural course of events, gather to the towns,) of immigrants from abroad and the restless and unsuccessful seeking employment; and in some cities this class is much larger than in others. Among such classes, the rate of suicide is likely to be unusually high. At the same time, the current of individual despair seeking the outlet of death, sets uniformly towards the city, and cases that should be charged to the account of the rural population, go to swell the city

rate. On the other hand, there are cases which never appear in the statistics; thus, some are hushed up by the efforts of friends, physicians and officials, and others never get beyond the "missing" column in the police books. When all these circumstances are taken into consideration, and it is further reflected how small, after all, is the proportion of suicides to inhabitants, (and how great, consequently, is the difference made by the suppression or addition of a few cases,) the contention that even the best returns attainable are of but little value, must be admitted to be reasonable.

Of little value, that is,—as we have already said,—to the people who have the mania of totals and averages, and handle all vital statistics with the same exactness and unintelligence. And when we come to collate and compare our figures with those of European statisticians, there are instantly suggested the most radical differences. Let us take Germany, for instance, as a country which, in its high level of popular education, most nearly resembles the United States. There is there a system of compulsory military service, there are strongly marked social castes, and there is a spirit of conservatism and prudence with regard to marriage, all of which are fruitful sources of suicides, the objection that in America free marriage produces more domestic infelicity being met by the argument that people who will enter into the marriage state recklessly will not be slow in accepting the opportunities offered them of dissolving the obnoxious tie by a practically free divorce. On the other hand, America is subject to certain influences which operate much less powerfully on individuals in the society of the Old World. While we have ample land and a democratic system throughout every department of our life, while the ferryman may live to be a Vanderbilt, or the clerk a Scott, while the waitress may marry a millionaire, or the rich heiress wed the penniless clerk, once a newsboy, and, while, perhaps, there is no country in the world in which greater good can be employed by a greater number of people in every million inhabitants, the system involves its peculiar disadvantages.

And these disadvantages seem to us to reveal the most distinguishing characteristics of suicide in the United States. The brilliant success of a Gould or a Mackay is felt all along the line of the ambitious and venturesome, and stimulates speculation—not labor and thrift. The man already well-to-do desires to become rich; the rich man to become richer. And these ambitions are almost invariably selfish—personal. Nine times out of ten, the speculator or gambler makes his venture for the gratification of his personal tastes, and his example is followed religiously by his humble imitator, who has put his last hundred dollars into a telegraph or a railroad stock. The double strain tends to promote the disposition to suicide, and the reaction upon the speculator's mind, when the speculation results disastrously, is the more severe, because of the unnaturally high hopes that had been cherished. The speculative spirit, and the too frequent failure to prosecute or ostracize socially those guilty of dishonorable conduct, lead to another cause of suicides—those of the victims of malversation of trust funds. And it is undeniable that the taste of the American women for fashion and sentiment, the too frequent relaxations of parental vigilance, especially in small communities, and the heedlessness with which frequently the married state is entered upon, are potent factors in bringing about an abnormally high suicide rate.

The whole tendency of modern thought and action is towards the minimizing of every one of the "terrors of death." We have seen in England the idea advocated of legalized suicide or euthanasia in the case of persons afflicted with an incurable and torturing disease. The Church is no longer implacable towards the suicide, nor does the law expose his corpse with ignominy and confiscate his property. Many of the insurance companies have come to consider suicide in the same category with ordinary death. Between agnosticism, rationalism, and all the forms and degrees of unbelief and spiritualism and religious excesses, there are further important contributions made to that mental indifference and that mental excitement which alike incite to self-destruction. The theatrical suicide has become unhappily frequent in the United States during the past few years, and so has the fashion of suicide in company with the object of one's affections. The conclusion, too, is warranted that the publicity given to sensational instances of self-destruction leads to other suicides that, under ordinary circumstances, would not have taken place.

We all know that in every one's composition there is so much tendency to commit *felo de se*, just as there is so much selfishness, benevolence or combativeness. In every million of men, taking one year with another, so many will destroy themselves, and it can be predicted, almost with infallibility, to what weapon and method they will resort. The woman will prefer a neat and modest style of death,—poison, asphyxiation, drowning or hanging,—to cutting her throat or blowing out her brains; as a rule, she will chose a method that is irrevocable when once entered upon. Her choice, too, will be confined within narrower limits, and she will never originate a particularly startling and deliberate fashion of death. A woman is less likely to kill herself on the day of the week devoted to house-cleaning, than on any other day. She cannot spare time! Similarly, when a man's pay-day is Monday, he will be less moved to suicide than when he receives his wages on Saturday. The elevation of Eugénie de Montijo to the imperial throne of France, checked

the suicidal impulse among the *grisettes* and working-girls of Paris for a while. Are men less "notional?" One would suppose that, when a man had made up his mind to drown himself, he would not care whether the water was cold or warm; but, after allowing for the greater difficulty of committing suicide when the smaller streams are ice-bound, it is found that there are fewer drownings in winter than in summer. The first shiver is more dreaded than the final sinking. A subject so curiously complex, and upon which adequate statistical information is lacking, is, as our readers will see, one difficult of handling; nevertheless, we believe that, in examining on a future occasion into some of the characteristics and statistics of suicide in the United States, we shall not disappoint the interest of our readers, nor altogether waste their time.

LITERATURE.

BADEAU'S "MILITARY HISTORY OF GRANT."

DESPITE their defects—for which, fortunately, the impartial reader is prepared to make allowance—the three huge volumes before us, ("The Military History of Ulysses S. Grant," by Adam Badeau,) must be regarded as a most valuable contribution to the history of one of the most pregnant and fascinating periods, not alone of modern times, but of all time. In the course of things, it will not be a popular work—its size and cost militate against that—and the undisguised devotion of its author to his own side and admiration for his own subject is only too apt to influence his judgment, so that we cannot say that General Badeau's book is to be taken as "the last word" upon the operations so brilliantly begun at Fort Donelson, and so brilliantly concluded at "Appomattox and its famous apple tree." No man can be always perfect and invariably right, and the skill and devotion of an enemy are none the less to be recognized because they are enlisted against our own cherished cause. In the case of General Badeau, however, there is no concealment of preferences and prejudices, and the reader can from time to time correct the biographer—allow for the "personal equation"—without difficulty. And even those who quarrel most decidedly with the author, will find themselves forced to admit that he has collected with industry and arranged with care a vast volume of information of the first importance to the future historian of the War of the Rebellion, while the publishers have laid the book before the reader in all the completeness desirable in all publications, but particularly in those dealing with military operations. Maps, plans and indexes have been supplied copiously, and these volumes only yield as models in their line to Lieutenant E. V. Greene's work (issued from the same presses) on the Russo-Turkish campaign. We could wish, by the way, that the plan there adopted of giving the maps in a volume detached from the text, had been followed here, and it may be added that any one who entertains doubts as to the progress our publishers are making in all matters connected with book-making would do well to compare the specimens of cartography here given with—let us say—those in Adams's "Great Campaigns of Europe."

Moltke is credited with the contemptuous remark that he had not studied the history of the American war of 1861-5, because it was only the story of the "struggle of armed mobs." The indifference and ignorance of European soldiers are in some measure excusable, for there has not yet been given to the world a good history of the war. There is no lack of memoirs and individual narratives, as those of Sherman and "Joe" Johnston, or the history of the Count of Paris, or the report by McClellan, or the works on Lee and "Stonewall" Jackson, but as yet the great mass of information has not been sifted and digested—nay, it is not yet complete, for it is but a few months since important facts concerning McClellan's Peninsular campaign were made public, but a few weeks since a flood of new light was thrown upon the battle of Shiloh, but a few days since Thomas's laurels were claimed for Schofield, and Burnside was brought forward as the real originator of the march to Atlanta and the sea. In many ways the fact that the War of the Rebellion was a political one, has militated, still militates and will continue to militate, against the production of a satisfactory history. Political exigencies influenced in part many of its important operations, and the interference of political motives is invariably disastrous to a commander. We do not mean such political considerations as those which induced Moltke to buy at such a tremendous cost the early victories of the Franco-Prussian war—unless he could in a few days beat down France he would have had Italy and Austria on his hands as well, but we do mean such as those which induced Bazaine to coop himself up in Metz, so as to be ready to restore the Empire, or Gambetta to provoke the purposeless slaughter of his raw levies, in order to prevent the possibility of such a restoration. There is no necessity for believing that McClellan was sacrificed, lest he should become a Presidential candidate, or that Grant agreed to sacrifice 100,000 lives, rather than to stultify Secretary Stanton's plans, or that McClellan was a traitor who should have been shot, and Hancock at heart a "rebel brigadier." The war was an experiment; we had to raise, equip, organize and learn to handle armies, and the politicians and the press were only too willing to assist in "bossing the job." Not only were all the rumors to which we have alluded, and thousands more, afloat, and not only did they have their influence upon military operations, but, now that the war has been brought to an end these sixteen years, their mischievous influence is still felt. Sectional feeling still exists and party feeling runs as high as ever, and the inevitable consequence of the extreme violence of foes has been the excessive adulation of friends. Nay, some of our generals have taken part personally in these profitless controversies, as if in the war there had not been won laurels enough for all.

For all these disadvantages, more formidable, as a matter of course, to the foreign student, the lessons of our war are beginning to commend themselves to European critics. The use of the spade in European warfare, though it began in the campaign

of 1866, did not really challenge due attention till the Russo-Turkish war, when the discovery was made that the "armed mobs" of America had long before recognized its utility. In the utilization in war of the railroad and telegraph, the United States led the way, and displayed the greater energy and fertility, inasmuch as their railway system had not been primarily devised with an eye to military necessities. The errors of Bazaine at Metz, and of Osman Pacha at Plevna, invited attention to the brilliant manner in which Grant availed himself of Pemberton's similar fault at Vicksburg, and Lee's prolongation of the war for a twelvemonth by his wary refusal to be led into a like trap at Richmond. Sir Frederick Robert's march from Cabul to Candahar led English critics to study Sherman's still finer march "down to the sea," and to appreciate the sound and genial nature of its conception, and the manner alike bold and prudent of its execution. Despite all the drawbacks enumerated, the story of American soldiery during the War of the Rebellion is beginning to attract abroad the attention that it merits, and we are not without hope that the materials now accumulated for its proper presentation in a form at once attractive and accurate will ere long be taken in hand by some competent author, a soldier at the same time that he is a literateur, and free alike from sectional, from political and from personal prejudices.

Of the great captains produced by the North, those sent to us by the Western armies had certain advantages not to be despised. The press and the politicians concentrated their attention on the defence of Washington and the advance upon Richmond, and a Grant or a Sherman was less worried and hampered than a McClellan or a Hooker. The Western generals, too, had a fine instrument to handle, in the shape of an army almost solidly American and of exceptionally high intelligence and fine physique. When Grant came East it was with the prestige of victory and the full support and confidence of the Administration and the people, and he found the army of the Potomac organized and seasoned. We are frank to admit that we consider Sherman the finer soldier of the two. No one who has read the concluding chapter of Sherman's "Memoirs," can fail to acknowledge that he is in the presence of a man who is the captain to his finger tips and in every fibre of his composition, and those who have studied the march on which his fame will always rest and have come to appreciate his originality, his fertility of resource, his tenacity and celerity, and, above all, his possession of the insight and nerve characteristic of the highest order of military genius, always playing for the largest stake on the board, and his faculty for bringing an army through a campaign without needless loss, will contest the claim of Grant's superiority. Grant, himself, with soldierly frankness and unselfishness, records his high admiration of his gifted brother-in-arms.

But if we hold such an opinion, we do not share in the belief of those who underrate the military genius and accomplishments of the ex-President. If his fibre is less fine, he has a splendid capacity for enduring wear and tear, and is neither carried away by exaltation nor cast down by reaction and depression. In war the most successful general is the man that makes the fewest mistakes, and Grant is the personification of that calm, deliberate common-sense which rarely goes astray, or, if it makes mistakes, does not commit irredeemable errors. If he has not the eagle eye, the electric rapidity of combination of a Napoleon in whose mind all the intermediate processes are suppressed, and there is no appreciable interval between statement and solution; his grasp is alike comprehensive and sure, and he sees what he cannot do as well as what might be done. Tenacious, patient, simple, and direct, he is to be classed with those captains like Wellington, who finally win after it has been demonstrated that they must lose. Without the fine and vivid style of Sherman, his military writings abound in those terse and simple phrases which impress themselves on the reader's mind, and reveal the man himself: the capacity to formulate such phrases is always found in the real soldier. It cannot be said that of the men that surrounded him, any but the lamented Rawlins was eminent for talent; yet he always managed to bring into the compass of a very small staff precisely the men needed to carry out his orders to the letter,—another vindication of ability that too frequently escapes attention. It is noteworthy, and it is the highest testimony that can be offered as to Grant's capacity and sterling worth,—that, while there are few men of this time and nation that have been more violently assailed (and often not altogether without cause), adverse criticism has always respected the soldier, and at the North or at the South on the morrow of Lee's surrender, not one unfriendly voice was raised to depreciate the victor who had "brought back peace with honor."

It is the history of this period of General Grant's career, the most attractive as well as the most important, that is recited in General Badeau's monumental work. To its comprehensiveness we have already borne witness, and we have endeavored, so far as was possible within the narrow limits of this page, to express our appreciation of the military character of its subject, and to vindicate the egregious injustices and misconceptions concerning American soldiery in the War of the Rebellion, which are only too common, even among Americans. The development and revelation of General Grant's military character, and the achievements of American soldiery can be noted here with equal profit and interest by the attentive student, and in the various appendices and authorities will be found a copious store of historical, statistical and biographical material of the highest importance. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Vol. I, 683 pp.; vol. II, 591; vol. III, 733, with portrait, maps, etc.; sold by subscription only. E. D. Weller, 1229 Filbert street, Philadelphia.

JEFFERSON DAVIS'S HISTORY.—No book on so important a subject as the history of the Southern Confederacy, when it has for its author one of the leaders of the secession movement, can be of such a character as to make people regret that it was written, but we expect that there will be a good deal of disappointment felt on the perusal of these two large volumes, "The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government," by Jefferson Davis. We have invited the associates of the President of the Southern Confederacy to discuss questions of historical fact with its author, and to furnish the

necessary complement to his strongly felt and strongly-expressed opinions, and shall only occupy ourselves here with considering the literary quality of the work and some of the most important contributions made therein to the history of the era of the rebellion.

The great size of such a book is not to be regarded as a defect. In the order of things such works must contain long and minute recitals and voluminous State papers and dispatches, and the objection to their incorporation vanishes when there is a good and copious index. But disproportion of allotment and narrowness of treatment are defects to which objection may legitimately be made, and these defects, unfortunately, characterize Mr. Davis's "History." Of the 200 pages which trace the history of slavery and sectional politics down to the eve of secession, less than 20 are devoted to the period ending with the compromise of 1850, while the "coercion of Missouri" and secession of Kentucky are discussed with a minuteness quite out of keeping with their importance. At the very outset, therefore, the reader is served with a warning that the book is not the history of slavery, secession and the war of the rebellion, for which we have long waited, nor even the history of one side of the question; it is a personal work throughout. Two things might relieve such a work—broad, generous and sympathetic treatment, or grace and vigor of literary style. Neither of these do we find here. Mr. Davis was always a good hater and a man of narrow mind, and age has not removed or mellowed his acerbity and his prejudices. And, though a man of great intellectual power, he is wholly without the talent for depicting character, while his style is usually common-place—sometimes ungrammatical. Everyone who has read General "Dick" Taylor's "Destruction and Reconstruction" knows how violent are its author's prejudices, how often—as when he declared that Secretary Stanton destroyed himself—he is inexact in his statements, and how his book is loaded down with ornaments often meretricious and doing violence to the sound rule of heraldry which forbids "metal upon metal and color upon color." Nevertheless, the pictures of the General's book are those of living, breathing, speaking, acting men, while in the volumes of his more famous brother-in-law we find no picture gallery, but rather a series of notices such as a newspaper reporter, somewhat pressed for time, would write when describing a collection of pictures, or writing an obituary notice.

Franklin Pierce is the only politician of whom Mr. Davis speaks with anything approaching warmth, and he exalts that amiable and mediocre gentleman into a very paragon of perfection. There are only the most casual and perfunctory notices of such men as Mr. Alexander H. Stephens. Of the Southern Generals, Albert Sidney Johnston alone is treated with affectionate admiration, and the opinion is expressed that once "again in the history of war the fate of an army depended upon one man, and more, that the fortunes of a country hung by the single thread of the life that was yielded on the field of Shiloh." We accept this as a warm tribute from Mr. Davis to one of the finest and most striking figures on the Southern side, but the reflection is one not more trite than untrue, and to which the history of the world gives the lie daily. Lee is treated throughout the book with deserved respect—indeed so chilling is Mr. Davis's tone that it might almost be thought it was inspired by jealousy of the really great captain who, quite as much as Mr. Davis, and notably during the last two years of the war, filled the eye of the world as the representative of the Southern cause. Justice is hardly done to Beauregard, and Joseph E. Johnston is repeatedly dealt with in severe style, as was to be expected after the historical controversy in which the President and the General were engaged some years ago. The reader will even feel that when Mr. Davis devotes particular attention to the unfortunate Pemberton and the gallant but equally unfortunate Hood, he is disparaging Johnston quite as much as defending them. Jackson and Early, next to Albert Sidney Johnston, are the objects of Mr. Davis's warmest admiration. He, naturally, is not very partial to the Northern commanders, and is particularly severe on the vandalism of Sherman at Atlanta and Columbia, and throughout his whole march down to the sea, declaring that for barbarism and brutality it was unequalled by the work of any commander since Alva. Nevertheless, *à la guerre comme à la guerre*. We might quote an incident, new probably to type, when Sherman, having to tear down a Tennessean's house, as he opened action with his artillery, after launching at its pleading owner the characteristic phrase, "We're going to make you feel what war is—going to burn your—country into lime, and then slack the lime!" detailed an officer to move the family and its stuff away, with all tenderness, and supply its members with rations.

Many of the historical points raised by Mr. Davis cannot fail to provoke that extended—and perhaps acrimonious—discussion that is desirous in the interests of accuracy. It is stated that in 1860, both Bell and Breckinridge offered to withdraw if Douglas would do likewise, thus uniting the whole anti-Republican vote on one candidate against Lincoln, and Mr. Davis says that he was the agent charged with the communication, Mr. Douglass rejecting the proposition on the ground that he was in the hands of his friends, who would infallibly go over to Lincoln were he to retire. He insists vehemently that the Southern people were not led into secession blindly or against their will by a few men, but that, on the contrary, they were far in advance of their representatives, characterizes as "groundless fictions" the imputations that there were cabals and conspiracies among those representatives at Washington during the winter of 1860-61, and that they used their positions to plot against the integrity of the Union, and insists that the absence of troops from the South at the breaking out of the war was not the result of pre-arrangement with Secretary Floyd,—was not in any degree abnormal. President Buchanan, we are informed, sent word to Montgomery, before the Confederate Commissioners set out for Washington, in the last days of February, 1861, that he would be happy to receive the Commission and transmit the communication with which it was charged to the Senate, though subsequently, being "fearfully panic-stricken" at the rising excitement in the North, he receded from his promise. Mr. Seward, however, gave a written pledge that the evacuation of Fort

Sumter would be ordered and the *status quo* at Fort Pickens be maintained, and, so late as April 7, wrote to Judge Campbell:—"Faith as to Sumter fully kept, wait and see." Concerning the oft-discussed question of Major Anderson's convictions and attitude, Mr. Davis does not really give us anything that is new. He quotes the familiar letter in which Anderson declared: "We shall strive to do our duty, though I frankly say my heart is not in this war," a declaration in accordance with the tone of his private correspondence at the time with Mr. Davis, which "exhibited him in the attitude of faithful performance of a duty inconsistent with his domestic ties and repugnant to his patriotism." It was at Nashville, if we do not mistake, that a Confederate attack interrupted a discussion between Thomas and Anderson on the subject of State Rights. "Go and drive off those friends of yours, Anderson," said the General, "and then come back and finish your argument."

President Davis points out that he favored, and indeed ordered, a prompt pursuit of the Federal troops after the battle of Bull Run, adding that his order was not issued to the army until a day later, and that Beauregard opposed as hopeless an advance to the southern bank of the Potomac, and defends himself against the charge of responsibility for the inaction of the army of the Potomac at the close of 1861 and beginning of 1862. The fight at Williamsburg,—that engagement at which "Hancock was superb,"—he will not admit to have terminated in a Union victory, though we incline to the belief that, considering the heavier loss suffered by the Confederates, and the immediate evacuation of the place, it might be claimed as a successful engagement. He does more justice to Grant's movements at the North Anna than to McClellan's "change of base," and hardly seems to us to appreciate at its proper value Grant's Vicksburg campaign. It is conceded that it would have been better to withdraw from Gettysburg than to renew the fighting on the third day, and Johnston's final convention with Sherman is severely criticized, on the ground that the show of continued resistance would have overcome the depression then spreading over the South and have secured better terms from the North. This conclusion, perhaps, will not commend itself to all of Mr. Davis's readers. After Gettysburg and Vicksburg, and when all hopes of foreign recognition or intervention had vanished, the prolongation of the war was hopeless, and we fancy that if the matter had been left to the soldiers and generals, peace would have been made. The women of the Confederacy, whose devotion to its waning fortunes, and labor and sufferings in its cause, recall the most thrilling pages of classic history, kept it on its feet after its fate was patent to every one, and Mr. Davis,—who dedicates his work to them,—does not display the feminine element in his composition in this matter alone.

Perhaps the most able, and at the same time the most interesting, portions of the work are those devoted to the history of the naval operations of the Confederacy and the diplomacy of the North at the beginning of the struggle. It is a little curious, however, seeing that death has removed all the leading actors in the negotiations, who might object to publicity, that there is no material contribution made to our stock of knowledge on the interesting question of the foreign relations of the Confederacy. Another section which will attract attention is that dealing with the history of emancipation, though the animus betrayed by the author in so many parts of his work is too noticeable here. He defends himself warmly, and all reasonable men will admit quite superfluously, from the charge that he displayed exultation on hearing of the death of Lincoln, controverts the "many falsehoods" with regard to his capture, and dwells upon the treatment he received at Fortress Monroe, though very briefly, with a bitterness which we can now-a-days understand infinitely better, and blame infinitely less, than people could twenty years ago. If we have to regret the feeling which so frequently betrays itself in these volumes, we are, at the same time, prepared to make allowance for it. We prefer to cherish the hope that, as the personal actors in the great drama of 1861-5 pass away, as new and living issues are introduced into our politics, as the spirit of sectionalism wanes before the influences of intercourse and identical interests, it shall be found possible to write the history of the great Rebellion with accuracy and justice, to recognize the virtues and genius that illuminated its sad and heroic scenes; to avoid profitless discussions of abstract subjects concerning which to the end of time wise men will agree to disagree, and which in the concrete were settled and sealed up sixteen years since; to admit and atone for wrongs that should never have been wrought and cannot be remedied, and to present to the world the spectacle of a country whose sons, whatever their accidents of birth, location or political preference, whether the descendants of the men of Lexington or New Orleans, Yorktown or Saratoga, are united forever in the bonds of patriotism. D. Appleton & Co., New York. Vol. I., pp. 707; Vol. II., pp. 808, with portraits, illustrations and maps.

THE EMPEROR.—With this work Professor Ebers closes his series of Egyptian novels. Chronologically, it is the last but one in the series, "Homo Sum" having been written out of the natural order. "The Emperor" deals with scenes and events in Alexandria during a visit of the Emperor Hadrian in Egypt in the year 129, A. D. Like Hypatia, it gives a picture of the Roman Dominion and the early growth of Christianity in Egypt. Its pages are brightened with the gay and sunny humanitarianism and the many-sided sympathy which are the spontaneous outgrowth of the author's own genial nature. True to the antique, he avoids all dark psychological depths, and delights our minds with fresh and healthy pictures of the objective world. He has a keen and delicate discrimination in the reading of character. His men and women are sharply individualized; they glow with the warmest life; their forms do not easily fade from the memory; but the psychological power that created them is never obtruded; the treatment is entirely picturesque. For obvious reasons, the *milieu*, or environment, of an historical novel should be minutely pictured. Such is the case in all of Ebers' novels. These minute touches show the master and genius. A second rate writer would never think to tell us, as Professor Ebers does, that as Selene walked along the corridor with the lamp in her hand, "the flame blown about

by the draught, and her own figure, were mingled here and there in the polished surface of the dark marble." Notice the minute touches, also, in the picture of the gate-keeper's house: "The front of the gate-keeper's house was quite grown over with ivy which framed the door and window in its long runners. Amidst the greenery hung numbers of cages with starlings, blackbirds, and smaller singing-birds. The wide door of the little house stood open, giving a view into a tolerably spacious and gaily-painted room. . . . Close to the drinking vessels, on the stone top of the table, rested the arm of an elderly woman, who had fallen asleep in the arm-chair in which she sat. Notwithstanding the faint gray moustache that marked her upper lip, and the pronounced ruddiness of her forehead and cheeks, she looked pleasant and kind. She must have been dreaming of something that pleased her, for the expression of her lips and of her eyes—one being half open and the other closely shut—gave her a look of contentment. In her lap slept a large gray cat, and by its side—as though discord could never enter this bright little abode, which exhaled no savor of poverty, but, on the contrary, a peculiar and fragrant scent—lay a small shaggy dog, whose snowy whiteness of coat could only be due to the most constant care. Two other dogs like this one, lay stretched on the floor at the old lady's feet, and seemed no less soundly asleep." Ebers excels in these studies of still life. Those acquainted with the chief traits of character and the chief events in Hadrian's life, will wonder at the skill with which they are organically moulded into most charming narrative. The Emperor's portrait is finely drawn, so is that of Sabina the Empress, and that of the sculptor. In fact, all the chief characters seem to us like our personal friends or acquaintances.

It is almost impossible in a historical novel or romance, not to be burdened by one's material. In the present work the narrative is decidedly heavy and prolix in parts. We are too long in getting to the important points.

There are some typographical errors in this American edition (especially in the "you's" and the "your's"). The translator would have been justified in taking the bold step of translating the dish of cabbages and sausage which the author dwells on so fondly and to which he returns again and again, into some less peculiarly Teutonic dish. The dish *may have been* Egyptian, but it has a suspicious German look, and if the sculptor, the architect, the Emperor and Antinous could smack their lips with such gusto over this compound, we Americans at least, should be spared the contemplation of the scene! William S. Gottsberger, New York. 1881. 2 vols.

THOUGHTS FROM THE MAGAZINES.

NINETEENTH CENTURY. Professor Edward Dowden gives copious extracts from Carlyle's lectures, delivered in 1838, on the "Periods of European Culture," which were taken down in shorthand by some admiring hearer, and afterwards written out. This course of lectures was the second of four courses, of which the reports of only the fourth,—that on "Heroes and Hero Worship,"—were revised for publication by the author. Much of the matter of these lectures is the same as that of the "Heroes," and of this Professor Dowden only gives what is striking in phraseology from the earlier series. The idea of the lecturer is the familiar Carlylean idea that periods of belief are the fruitful periods of human culture, and periods of scepticism the barren epochs. Of the Greeks, Carlyle says:

It is certain that there is a remarkable similarity in character of the French to these Greeks. Their first feature was what we may call the central feature of all others, exhausting vehemence, not exactly strength, for there was no permanent coherence in it as strength, but a sort of fiery impetuosity; a vehemence never anywhere so remarkable as among the Greeks, except among the French. There is the instance mentioned by Thucydides, of the sedition in Corcyra, which really reads like a chapter out of the French Revolution, in which the actors seem to be quite regardless of any moment but that which was at hand. * * * But connected with all this savageness there was an extraordinary delicacy of taste and genius in them. They had a prompt dexterity in seizing the true relations of objects, a beautiful and quick sense in perceiving the plane in which the things lay, all around the world, which they had to work with, and this without being highly admirable, nor in their own internal province highly useful. Ulysses is the very model of the type Greek, a perfect image of the Greek genius; a shifty, nimble, active man, involved in difficulties, but every now and then bobbing up out of darkness and confusion, victorious and intact.

Of the Romans he says:

We may say of this nation, that as the Greeks may be compared to the children of antiquity from their *naïveté* and gracefulness, while their whole history is an Aurora, the dawn of a higher culture and civilization, so the Romans were the men of antiquity, and their history a glorious, warm, laborious day, less beautiful and graceful, no doubt, than the Greeks, but more essentially useful. Method was their principle, just as harmony was that of the Greeks. The method of the Roman was a sort of harmony, but not that beautiful, graceful thing which was the Greek harmony. Theirs was a harmony of plans, an architectural harmony, which was displayed in the arranging of practical antecedents and consequences. "The *Æneid*," is very inferior to Homer. There is that fatal consciousness, that knowledge that he is writing an epic. The plot, the style, all vitiated by that one fault. "Æneas" is a lachrymose sort of man altogether. If we want an example of a diseased self-consciousness and exaggerated imagination, a mind blown up with all sorts of strange conceits, we have it in "Seneca." Although "Seneca" is a sign of the degeneration of Roman literature, Tacitus "the most significant and the greatest of all the Roman writers," appeared after Seneca.

After this follows the transition to Christianity, the millennium called out of darkness during which Christianity was conquering the world. The apex of that life was the Crusades. Then came Dante and the medieval Italians, Cervantes and the Spaniards, Luther and the Reformation, Shakespeare and the Elizabethan period, Voltaire and the encyclopedists, and, finally, Goethe and German literature.

The Duke of Argyll gives his reasons at length for breaking with the Gladstone ministry on the Land Bill. His main points are that the purpose of the bill should have been to provide for the easy and extensive acquisition of ownership of land in Ireland, even though the state had bought up the land and sold it again; that any legislation which tends to limit freedom of contract in land is injurious and retrograde legislation; and that the indelible right of sale given gratuitously and indiscriminately to all occupiers "is the very heart and centre of all the habits that tend to make the confusion worse confounded." These conclusions are consistent with portions—with large portions—of the Bill. But they cannot be reconciled with other portions of it which seem to me not only to go far beyond the necessities of the case, but to establish new principles injurious to the extended ownership which we are desirous of establishing.

Admiral Lord Dunsany, following the line laid down by Captain Kirchhammer's paper, in the previous number of the same magazine, on the military impotence of Great Britain, contributes a paper, entitled "The Silver Streak," to show how baseless is the current English notion that the English Channel secures Great Britain against successful invasion. The British navy may, perhaps, be superior to that of France alone, although this is a doubtful question; but it is very certainly inferior to that of France and another nation—say Italy—combined. Neither is it true that the ships of the British navy are individually superior to those of other navies. Italy has two ships

more powerful than any two British ships, and is building two others, more powerful still. Up to 1830 it is likely that the British navy was superior to the combined fleets of Europe. Since then, at least at two epochs, the first when France built the first successful screw man-of-war, and the second when the same country invented iron-clads, France really took the lead. The conditions of naval warfare have entirely changed. English superiority in seamanship, so conspicuous in Rodney's time, and in Nelson's, no longer avails. An able seaman, in old days, could hand, reef, steer and heave the lead. The first two of these accomplishments "have no place in our modern navy, and ships now are steered even by steam-power, while as to heaving the lead a young landsman learns it in a week." "If seamanship in Nelson's day counted for seventy-five in the hundred, it does not count for ten now." It is true that England has not been successfully invaded for eight hundred years; but "unfortunately we can neither appeal to 800 years', nor one year's, nor even to one day's experience, as at all relevant to present circumstances. We have never been at war with a naval power since the days of steam fleets, of iron-clads, of huge steam transports and colossal armies not only on a war footing, but so constituted as to take the field at a week's notice." In fact, under the existing conditions, "a sea frontier presents peculiar facilities of invasion." Moreover, the immense mercantile marine of Great Britain renders her especially vulnerable at sea, and makes the concentration of her navy in the channel perilous as well as difficult. Unless the invading fleet were attacked and beaten in the channel, by making feints on distant points, the chances are that it could disembark an army with all its material without any effective resistance from the shore. But during the inevitable delay of the disembarkation, it might be successfully attacked by a British squadron; if not, London would be at the mercy of the invading force. "To buy out the enemy, to furnish him with any number of golden bridges, would be our task, but he could neither be fought out nor starved out of the world's wealthiest market."

CONTEMPORARY REVIEW.—The Duke of Argyll writes on "The Origin of Religion considered in the Light of the Unity of Nature." He insists upon and reinforces the point which he has made in previous papers, that man is the only animal capable of "development in a wrong direction." Nowhere, he says, is the evidence of this tendency so strong as in customs connected with religion. Animal worship, which we are accustomed to regard as one of the lowest forms of fetishism, may have begun with very high and very profound conceptions.

If we once allow ourselves to identify the Divine power in nature with any of its operations, if we seek for the visible presence of the Creator in any one of His creations, I do not know that we could choose any in which that presence seems so immanent as in the wonderful instincts of the lower animals. We have seen in a former chapter that men of the highest genius in philosophical speculation, like Descartes, and men of the highest skill in the popular exposition of scientific ideas, like Professor Huxley, have been led by these marvels of instinct to represent the lower animals as automata or machines. The whole force and meaning of this analogy lies in the conception that the work done by animals is like the work done by the mechanical contrivances of men. We always look upon such work as done, not by the machine, but by the contriving mind which is outside the machine, and from whom its adjustments are divined.

The Religion of Humanity itself, alleged by its founder and his followers to be the most advanced and refined of all religious conceptions, is, in its essence, only a phase of animal-worship.

Indeed, Comte himself specially included the whole animal creation. It is the worship of the creature man as the consummation of all other creatures, with all the marvels and all the unexhausted possibilities of his moral and intellectual nature. The worship of this creature may certainly be in the nature of a religion, as much higher than other forms of animal-worship as man is higher than a beetle, or an ibis, or a crocodile or a serpent. But so, also, on the other hand, it may be a religion as much lower than the worship of other animals, in proportion as man can be wicked and vicious in a sense in which the beasts cannot. Obviously, therefore, such a worship would be liable to special causes of degradation.

The most obvious cause of degradation would be the tendency to deify force as force. Napoleon Bonaparte would be almost sure of occupying a high place in the Pantheon.

"Not a few of the chosen heroes of humanity have been chosen for reasons but little better. Comte himself, seeing this danger, and with an exalted estimate and ideal of the character of womanhood, had laid it down that it would be best to select some woman as the symbol, if not the object, of private adoration in the worship of Humanity. The French Revolutionists selected a woman, too, and we know the kind of woman that they chose. It may be wise, perhaps, to set aside this famous episode in a fit of national insanity as nothing more than a profane joke; but the developments of anthropomorphism in the mythology of the Pagan world are a sufficient indication of the kind of worship which the worship of Humanity would certainly tend to be."

Professor Stanley Jevons, in discussing "Bi-metallism," takes the ground that the question it presents is essentially an indeterminate problem. It involves several variable quantities and many constant quantities, the latter being either inaccurately known, or, in many cases, altogether unknown. The present annual supply of gold and silver is ascertained with fair approach to certainty, but the future supplies are matters of doubt. The demand for the metals again involves wholly unknown quantities, depending partly upon the course of trade, but partly also upon the action of foreign people and governments, about which we can only form surmises.

Of the silver problem in this country, the writer says:

The attempt to force silver dollars into use in the United States has entirely failed, and it might fail even under a convention. It is quite conceivable that in the United Kingdom and the colonies the scheme would be defeated by the stout refusal of the people to accept silver legal tender. A bank or a tradesman might try to stand upon his legal rights, but the result would be a kind of commercial "Boycotting."

His conclusion is, that for Great Britain to attempt a double standard would be simple folly:

There is one difficulty which presents itself to my mind as almost insuperable, namely, the confusion which would be produced in the transfer of national and other debts contracted in terms of gold money. Silver is now about thirteen per cent. below its old customary value compared with gold. If, then, debts contracted formerly in gold could be paid in silver by the option of the bi-metallic system, the claims of all creditors would be endangered to this extent, and would probably be depreciated to half this extent. Nor would the matter be much improved by enacting that old debts should be paid in gold as contracted, because gold, being forced into a fixed par with silver would be depreciated, say six per cent. It would be clearly impossible to unsettle the whole monetary contracts of the British nation and the British race, to the extent of some six per cent. or more, for the sake of the exceedingly problematic, if not visionary, advantages to be derived from this proposed convention. * * * My contention is that to wade through the interminable discussions about bi-metallism is about as useful as to wander through a forest in a mist, the happiest result of which is usually to find yourself back again at the point you started from.

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

BOOK-LOVERS will be sorry to learn that it is quite doubtful whether the third volume of the "Life of Sir Anthony Panizzi," (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.,) which was to appear this fall, will be published before 1882; owing to the pressure upon the time of its accomplished author, Mr. Stevens.

Roberts Brothers, of Boston, will issue the American editions of the new volumes of poems by Dante and Christina Rossetti.

Among the volumes announced by Messrs. E. P. Dutton & Co., are the "Sermons" of the late Bishop Odenheimer, with an introductory memoir, edited by his wife, and Bishop Williams's "Studies of the English Reformation."

Messrs. Fords, Howard & Hulbert, of New York, announce to appear immediately, in form corresponding with Oxford, Long Primer, Octavo, of the Authorized English edition, "The American Version" of the Revised New Testament, in which all the "readings and renderings preferred by the American Committee of Revision," instead of being relegated to a back seat in a list appended to the work, or put into foot notes, leaving every reader to pick out the connections and substitutions as best he can, are incorporated into the text. Dr. Roswell D. Hitchcock, President of the Union Theological Seminary, has done the work, which it is curious no one else should have undertaken, so natural and desirable is it.

Miss Sarah Orne Jewett is preparing a new volume of Essays, to be called, "Country By-Ways."

Messrs. J. R. Osgood & Co., announce an elaborate history of "The Public Service of the State of New York," edited by Prof. Chadbourne, of Williams, with the collaboration of a large number of prominent State officials.

The feature of the August *Atlantic* will be a sketch of literary Boston a quarter of a century ago, introducing many personal reminiscences of Mr. James T. Fields.

The next "Round Robin" novel is to be called "The Georgians."

Mr. R. Worthington, of New York, has in press a volume of translations from Heine, by Emma Lazarus, with a brief biography of the author. A good volume on Heine might be written by any author who has followed the course of Continental literature closely during the past six months.

"Californians and Mormons" is the name of a new book on America and the Americans, written by Vicomte A. E. D. de Rupert, described by his publisher as an "accomplished and unprejudiced foreigner."

Mrs. Rhoda E. White, of New York, (who, according to a Bologna paper, "has been called the Sévigné of the United States,") has published a book in Lyons, France, "De l'Enfance au Mariage," which is soon to appear in New York under the title of "From Infancy to Womanhood."

Messrs. Scribner and Welford, of New York, "run to" Egypt in their latest bulletin, which opens with their splendid new work, Rawlinson's "Ancient Egypt," Brugsch Bey's "History of Egypt under the Pharaohs," and Sir J. Gardner Wilkinson's "Manners and Customs of the Ancient Egyptians."

The *Modern Review*, the new English Quarterly, has begun its second year with a bright prospect of permanent success. It makes a refreshing departure from the time-honored custom of quarterlies in the brevity of a large proportion of its articles, while the fact that the American agent (Mr. G. H. Ellis, of Boston,) announces that the price to subscribers here has been reduced is worthy of note, as now, not only do English readers get American magazines at a cheaper price than Americans, but Americans get an English Review at a reduced rate—something for amateur political economists to puzzle over.

All but half a dozen copies of the second edition of Admiral Geo. H. Preble's "Flag of the United States" have been sold, yet, a sad commentary on the costly character of such a monumental book, it would take a third edition to recoup the author for his expenditure, leaving entirely out of the question any remuneration for the literary labor. Admiral Preble is publishing in the *United Service* a series of "Notes" for a history of steam navigation. In a private letter he writes, "These are really notes I have collected in the last dozen years with a view of writing from them such a 'History,' but I must leave the work for a young hand and be content to furnish something of the material."

Though the public interest in the Revised New Testament is reported as having passed beyond the first feverish state of excitement, the work still attracts much attention. Besides the "American Version," announced by Messrs Fords, Howard & Hulbert, Messrs Lee and Shepard, of Boston, announce an edition; Messrs I. K. Funk and Co. have in press a new edition of Mrs. Conant's "Popular History of English Bible Translation," with additions by the Rev. T. J. Conant, and the English revisers are now engaged upon a portion of the Apocrypha, a work not contemplated in their original undertaking, but forced upon the two companies by their agreement with the University Presses. A great many clever critics have pointed out the "comical error" in 1 Timothy II: 9, where for "shamefastness" is now read "shamefastness," being ignorant of the fact that "shamefastness" is the genuine word and the other a corruption. The critics, however, who assert that there were as good grounds for retaining "thieves" in the account of the Crucifixion as for substituting "robbers," have a very good case. The funniest criticism upon the Revision is furnished by the accomplished London correspondent of the New York Times, who writes:—"It seems to me that the failure of the commission's pedantic labors is sufficiently accentuated in the notable changes made in the Lord's Prayer to render an elaborate criticism unnecessary. 'Thy will be done in heaven as it is in earth,' familiar as it is simple in its flowing rhythm, is altered to 'Thy will be done, as in heaven so on earth.' The truth is, our great Greek scholars, as a rule, are not efficient masters of English." Well may the astonished reader ask where that "familiar" version, "Thy will be done in heaven as it is in earth" is to be found!

The Messrs. Macmillan announce a centenary translation of Kant's "*Kritik der reinen Vernunft*," by Max Müller, with an historical introduction by Professor Noire.

Professor Jowett's translation of "Thucydides," which is dedicated to Viscount Sherbrooke (Mr. Robert Lowe), is on the point of publication. It is contained in two handsome volumes of about 1,350 pages in all. Vol. I. comprises the English text, with a marginal analysis, and Vol. II. the notes, to which are prefixed a long and elaborate essay on inscriptions of the age of Thucydides, and some shorter dissertations.

Miss Rhoda Broughton is writing a new ghost story, which will shortly appear in *Temple Bar*.

Mr. Sidney Colville's "Life of Walter Savage Landor," announced to appear in Macmillan's series, "English Men of Letters," edited by Mr. John Morley, is in the press.

Longmans & Co. have in the press "The Marriages of the Bonapartes," by the Hon. D. A. Bingham, author of "The Siege of Paris,"—a book which should be both interesting and valuable, especially if the author has read the latest works on the family.

Mr. Joseph Thomson, a young African explorer, who is now fulfilling a commission entrusted to him by the Sultan of Zanzibar, thinks of taking a somewhat novel course with his account of his adventures. Instead of waiting, as is usually done, till he returns home to publish his narrative, he will probably send it home by instalments to be published in one or other of the English magazines.

Karl Blind is writing a treatise on "The Teutonic Kinship of Trojans and Thracians."

Edinburgh papers announce the death of Mr. Thomas Constable, the publisher, at the age of sixty-nine, the son and biographer of Scott's publisher and friend.

An English paper has already reminded its readers that the American editions of Thackeray are more complete than those published in England. It may be in order to remark, for the benefit of critics who assert that Thackeray "never wrote a play," that he was the author of a little play, "The Wolves and the Lamb," the plot of which is identical with that of "Lovel the Widower," and which, indeed, is included in the later editions of his works.

Keats's "Grecian Urn," in all probability, is at Holland House. His sonnet on the Elgin Marbles shows that he knew the British Museum well; but there are only two urns in the Museum which have anything in common with the vase of the poem, and that is very little. On the other hand, Piranesi has engraved an illustration of a large marble urn belonging to Lord Holland in 1750, one side of which perfectly represents the lines describing the Sacrifice. The other side is not given by Piranesi; but one of his plates, representing an urn in the Borghese gallery shows another scene in the Ode, so that it looks as if the origin of the poem had been very nearly discovered.

Trübner is to publish immediately a book, "The Occult World," in which Mr. A. P. Sinnett records his personal experiences among the professors of occult science in Oriental countries.

Dr. Emil Holub's "Seven Years in South Africa" has been one of the successes of the season. It has already reached a third edition in England, while in Germany 12,000 copies have been sold.

"Fichte" by Prof. Adamson, the fourth volume in the Philosophical Classics for English Readers, will be published by J. B. Lippincott & Co. in a few days. The fifth volume, "Hume," by Wm. Knight, will soon follow.

Mr. George W. Biddle, of this city, has found time in the intervals of his legal labors to make a new translation of the "Two Orationes on the Crown—Eschines and Demosthenes," which J. B. Lippincott & Co. have in press and will shortly publish.

Serpa Pinto's long expected book of travels, "How I crossed Africa," will be published by J. B. Lippincott and Co., on or about the first of July. It has already reached a second edition in England.

The next volume, "Madame de Sévigné," of the "Foreign Classics for English Readers," will be welcomed by a much larger circle of readers than its predecessors have found, as it is from the pen of Miss Thackeray. The Lippincotts announce it for early issue.

Messrs. J. B. Lippincott & Co. have just published an anonymous story called "Annals of Brockdale, a New England Village." The title is hardly descriptive enough, as only a part of the book concerns itself with Brockdale, and after the first 100 pages the characters are shipped over to Europe, where they see all the ordinary sights that lie in the way of the tourist and make unusually imbecile remarks about them. There are two distinctly unpleasant features in the book, one being the heavy and ungraceful style, and the other the constant recurrence of the vilest order of puns. A fair sample of the first defect may be given in a passage in which the author seeks to excuse the second: "Tom was addicted to punning, a propensity inherent in civilized humanity, never suppressed, though often frowned upon, and frequently indulged in by those the wings of whose fancy are strong enough to bear them into the higher atmosphere of wit, preferring to be the glow-worm rather than the fire-fly."

The French papers and magazines continue to publish reams of George Sand's letters—considerably to the detriment of her fame, as not one in ten is worthy of preservation, either for its matter or its manner.

François Coppée has published a volume of verses, "*Contes en vers et poésies diverses*," pretty and touching, but serving to emphasize the great difference between literary France now-a-days and the time of Hugo, de Musset and Lamartine.

Victor Hugo's new volume of poems, *Les Quatre Vents de l'Esprit*, though it contains much rubbish, is the best he has written for some years past.

DRIFT.

IT has been demonstrated at Frankfort, Ky., that the members of a Ladies' Sewing Circle can hold their tongues for an hour. Two skeptical young men offered to contribute \$10 to its funds on that condition, and the ladies, after taking ten minutes to express their opinions of the skeptics, went resolutely to work and won the money.

—The State Auditor of Indiana has just drawn a warrant for the payment of an internal improvement bond, granted in 1836. The original amount was \$1,000; the accumulated interest increases the total to \$5,563.16.

—There are customs of race and yet again customs of race. Thus an Eastern paper says: "The wife of Prof. Ko of Harvard has begun to compress her baby's feet in the Chinese fashion, and the cries of the little sufferer are heard day and night by the neighbors. The Cambridge anti-cruelty society is about to interfere." But the Professor might ask, allowing this to be true, why the anti-cruelty society does not interfere to prevent tight lacing?

—They do order those things better, or at least differently, in China than here, as witness the following extract from the *Pekin Gazette* of March 10th: "The Governor General of Szechuen solicits the bestowal of a mark of Imperial approbation upon a young lady, 18 years of age, who starved herself to death upon the burial of her betrothed. The deceased died when she was only fourteen years of age, and it was only on the earnest exhortation of her parents that she did not then destroy herself. In deference to their prayers she desisted, but from that time forward she fasted continually, and spent her time in religious exercises. When the remains of her betrothed were about to be removed to their native place, she refused to take any sustenance and died. Honors are also solicited for the other females who have displayed their filial piety by self-mutilation.

—In Japan, it is gratifying to observe, that while the credulous people are as ruthlessly swindled by the "confidence operators," these latter adopt a romantic style of swindling which recalls the golden age of Greek mythology. Thus we read that the tutelary goddess Benten recently appeared to a rich farmer of Hataya, and informed him that she needed the use of his go-down for three days and as many nights, a service for which she would recompense him liberally by extending her special protection to his household. The go-down contained a considerable quantity of goods, but as the goddess had desired that these should not be removed lest public attention might be attracted, they were merely packed away in one end of the building, while the other was furnished with everything rich or sumptuous the yeoman could provide himself or borrow from his neighbors. According to his divine visitor's instructions, the farmer and his family kept their doors and windows religiously closed, and did not venture near the go-down till the three days had expired, when they found that the goddess, having accomplished her earthly mission, had returned to the skies, taking \$1,800 worth of property with her, and now the Japanese police are in hot pursuit of the tutelary goddess Benten.

—From Japanese policemen to Japanese poets. Mr. Basil Hall Chamberlain, in his recent volume of Japanese "Classical Poetry," gives one stanza which will strongly remind the reader of Tennyson's "Tears, Idle Tears," as follows:

"A thousand thoughts of tender vague regret
Crowd on my soul, what time I stand and gaze
On the soft-shining autumn moon; and yet
Not to me only speaks her silv'ry haze."

—There is pride of race and yet again there is pride of race. Not long since Lee Chin, a Chinaman, married an American woman in Colorado, where such a union was legal, and removing to Wyoming was indicted for miscegenation. The Wyoming courts discharged him, and when he returned proudly to his fellows with his Caucasian bride, they cast him out for disgracing the Celestial race by marrying a foreign devil!

—And then from Japanese rhyme to Japanese rope. At a fair recently held in London, there was an exhibit from South Kensington that afforded the visitors much amusement—a coil of rope, or hawser, weighing nearly 600 pounds, and 700 feet long, made throughout from human hair from Japan. It was manufactured for a Tycoon, and during the five or six years of manufacture all the "spare hair" of the women of the whole province was used up, but just when it was completed his majesty concluded that steel cable would be better than rope, and abandoned this splendid hawser which represents how many switches?

—Lord Crawford's observatory at Dun Echt recently received the following telegram from Professor Kruger, at Kiel:—"Buenos Ayres, June 1st, 1800. Koen comet six hours south 30 degrees gold." "The message," it was added, "has apparently been mutilated in transmission," a hypothesis which does not seem wildly impossible. What his correspondent probably meant was, that Dr. Gould has observed a return of the great comet of 1807, in $a=6$ h., and $d=30$ deg., approximately. It must be admitted that "1800 Koen" for "1807" was a stroke of genius.

—The English House of Commons, it is well known, has an elaborate ritual of the hat, and the other evening the Premier ignored it and came signally to grief. The Chairman of Committee was proceeding in the usual course, at the end of a discussion on the Land Bill, to "put the question," and order the House to be cleared for a division, when the Premier unexpectedly rose in his place and attempted to address the House. All Mr. Gladstone wanted to say was to propound a point of order. But the interposition of the Prime Minister at this unusual period was greeted with shouts from the Opposition, and counter-cries of support from the Ministerial benches. It was not only that Mr. Gladstone was addressing the Committee after its Chairman had already put the question, but he was guilty of the still more dreadful Parliamentary offence of speaking at such a juncture without his hat on. When a division has once been authoritatively ordered, the theory is that the House is no longer sitting, and therefore it behooves honorable Members to make any remarks that they wish to give utterance to without rising in their places or going through the polite ceremonial of uncovering their heads. Mr. Gladstone's hat, however, was not to be found, and consequently the Premier was some minutes before he could respond to the wishes of the House; when he did rise to speak, he was temporarily arrayed in the head-gear appertaining to Sir Farrer Herschell, her Majesty's Solicitor-General, and this being too small for the massive brain of the Premier, the incident naturally created merriment in the House, in which Mr. Gladstone himself joined. The event will probably not become historical, like the great hat scene in the German Parliament some eighteen years back, when the President, Herr von Bochem-Dolfs, threatened the disorderly Von Roon that he would "have his hat brought;" to which the Minister of War replied defiantly, "I have nothing in the world to say against your hat being brought;" but it shows the innate respect still existing in the House of Commons for those time-honored customs which have gathered round its most ordinary proceedings.

—Is Saul also among the prophets? Has the conservative college of New Jersey been converted? It would seem so, indeed, to read an article in the May number of the *Princeton Review*, by Dr. William D. Whitney, "On the so-called science of religion." What would Verd Antique—as the boys used to call the Rev. Ashbel Green and the late Dr. Fodges have thought of such a passage as this? "No religion that does not itself and teach the absolute truth can look without fear on those who, unsubmitive contain to its authority, are searching after more and truer truth. This is the ground of the so-called antithesis between science and religion." The whole article is pervaded by the spirit of reaction against the ideas formerly dominant at Princeton, and the tone of the *Review* itself is entirely changed since the death of its late editor.

—It is not only in wheat, race horses, and hog products, that America is rivalling the Old World. She is now taking the lead in some departments at least of the Science of Bibliography. The *Catalogue of the Surgeon General's Office*, and that of the *Boston Athenaeum*, are the best printed catalogues in existence, while the *Library Journal*, is the first periodical ever published by and for librarians. Allibone's and Sabin's *Dictionaries* take rank with Brunet's famous *Manuel du Libraire*; at the same time that Poole's *Index to Periodical Literature* strikes out a new line altogether. The newest American contribution to Bibliography is the second volume of the admirable *American Catalogue*, published under the direction of Mr. F. Leypoldt and containing subject entries of all books in print, and for sale, in the United States in 1876, (4to, double columns, pp. 492.) In M. Leypoldt's introductory paper—modestly entitled "Bibliographical Aids," but in reality the most complete guide to the American book-buyer and student ever given to the world—he says truly that "as a general rule, the subject catalogue of a large collection is a peculiarly American product, though some of the principal European libraries are giving signs of efforts in a like direction." It is needless to remark that this second volume of the *American Catalogue* is worked out with true German thoroughness and is the indispensable complement and index of the first.

FINANCE.

NEW YORK, June 15, 1881.

There have been some unfavorable developments in the immediate financial situation during the week which ends to-day. How much they will figure in the results of the year's prosperity and development of the country is a question, and it is difficult even to estimate their value as influencing the Wall Street stock speculations. Certain it is that the stock market possesses fundamental elements of strength that have been at times tried severely but in vain by unfavorable events and influences. High as stocks have advanced they have had some justification for the improvement in the unprecedented prosperity that has remained with the country since it recovered from the effects of the panic of 1873, the enormous immigration that has taken place, the great increase in the capital seeking investment, and the steady progress in the earning capacity of our railroads. A series of poor crops in Europe and good crops in America, a favorable change in this country's balance of trade, and the additions to the money of the nation from the conversion of gold from the condition of merchandise into that of money upon the resumption of specie payments, a drain of specie from abroad and increased production of the precious mines at home, have so enriched the wealth of the United States, that a substantial basis has been afforded for an appreciation in the market value of good investments which—not saying many properties have not been carried dangerously high—is not necessarily "inflation" in the bad sense that sometimes is attached to the word. The very fact that so many public journals and public men are uniting now in cautioning conservative action and pointing out the rocks ahead of overweening confidence—the very fact that many investors are exercising pru-

dence and care, is not an indication that the heads of people have been turned or that eyes are blinded to an approaching financial whirlwind.

But to return to what we spoke of as some unfavorable developments in the immediate financial situation. Perhaps the most prominent is the revelation of the unsatisfactory state of the east bound traffic of the trunk line railroads. Beyond the peradventure of a doubt their business is poor. The live stock traffic from the west is in a most discouraging condition. The roads have gone so far as to grant the very low rates which prevail to those shippers who have not sent their shipments over the particular routes indicated by the so-called "eveners." Under the agreements between the companies, the best rates are accorded to shippers that submit to the diversion of their stock as the "pool eveners" dictate. Commissioner Fink has found it necessary to call the lines strictly to account in this matter. There has been another formal reduction in the rates on grain, so that the tariff from Chicago to New York is 20 cents per hundred pounds. This rate is 10 cents below the early winter schedule, and still it does not represent the actual figures which shippers now can obtain from the competing lines. Contracts have been made, it is stated upon good authority, as low as 18 cents per 100 pounds, and some are asserted to have been secured at 15 cents. Other branches of east bound traffic are affected by the "cutting" of the tariff, and Commissioner Fink has lowered the rate on provisions 5 cents to 25 cents per hundred pounds on the Chicago basis. The Erie Railroad last month carried double the amount of grain from the west that the New York Central received. Mr. Vanderbilt undoubtedly is aggrieved at this disproportion, and another element in the inharmoniousness of the roads is the notice given some time ago by the Wabash Company, preliminary to the withdrawal of its traffic from the Lake Shore and its threatened diversion to the north side of the lakes over the Great Western road to Canada. The Wabash soon will have a direct connection to Detroit, and it is not impossible that the line from the International Bridge to this city over the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western system will be ready in time to take this diverted traffic even from the New York Central. All these facts render the position of the relations between the trunk lines somewhat serious, but perhaps any immediate alarming developments will depend upon the interest in the stock market as investors (?) of the railroad kings.

The prospects of the crops are not so encouraging as they were some time ago. A largely diminished yield of winter wheat is now conceded, and a diminution in the spring-planted crop is probable. The Washington Department of Agriculture reports that its returns to date show that, while its condition is fully equal to that of last year at this time, the acreage sown of spring wheat is only 86 per cent. of that sown in 1880. The condition of the winter wheat crop is reported at an average for the whole country of only 76 per cent. A recent improvement in the weather in England has brightened the prospects of the crops in that country. The Department of Agriculture also reports the area of the cotton crop to be only 1 per cent. greater than last year's, while the condition of the crop is below that of 1880.

The coal trade continues dull and devoid of a "boom" that would sound pleasant music in the ears of the producers. The condition of the iron trade affects it, for the depression in iron continues. The furnace men are reported to be stocking their product in preference to selling it at ruling prices, and while only a few furnaces have as yet been blown out, many others must be abandoned unless an improvement in the trade takes place soon. Trade journals also see a possible future damage to the industry on account of the large importation of foreign iron that took place recently when prices here were much higher.

Dealings in stocks at the Stock Exchange were more active during the week, but the increased transactions did not come from any new support received from the general public. Prices have been irregular but generally pretty well sustained under the influence of strength that was imparted to certain special stocks like the Gould Southwestern shares, Western Union, Union Pacific and Central Pacific. Most of the trunk lines, the coal shares and the grangers are, however, lower from causes affecting them directly. Central Pacific has been a prominent feature by reason of the effect of the public announcement that the Government Auditor of Railroad Accounts, who some months ago thought the Company was jeopardizing the interests of the Government in paying dividends, had examined the Company's accounts and had his views decidedly changed in a direction favorable to the Central Pacific. The market closes somewhat shaken by the progress downward of east bound freight rates, and with the local "bear" party largely increased in numbers and also in power. The "bulls," however, are confident that "the country" is on their side, and claim that good properties will not suffer much of a temporary depression in price.

Little is now doing in State securities, and the trading in railroad bonds has reflected the same features and influences of the stock market. Government bonds early were depressed by the large importations of 5 per cent. coupon bonds from Europe, but with a later falling off in this influx movement, prices rallied and closed firm.

Notwithstanding the assurances made by some of the bank managers early last week that the leading banks had begun to contract their loans, the Clearing House statement of last Saturday showed a further heavy expansion in the average loans of all the banks, the gain for the week amounting to \$6,400,000, which increases the total loans to \$347,494,900. The largest gain was made by the Bank of Commerce (\$3,296,200) which also gained \$5,506,500 in specie, and \$8,712,200 in deposits; it was with this bank, however, that the money was deposited in making payment by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, for the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore shares of stock, recently purchased by the former company. The large disbursements soon to be made by the Treasury give assurances of a continuation of the present easy money market, and this fact probably has much to do with the efforts that are being made by bankers to keep their capital employed and the consequent enormous expansion of the loans and deposits. Since April 1st the loans have increased \$43,059,700, and the deposits, \$51,106,900. The money (specie and legal tenders) has not kept pace with the advance in the other items mentioned, and there has consequently been a falling off in the surplus reserve which is now \$8,805,300 against \$17,506,875 a year ago. The ratio of reserve to liabilities is 27.55.

It has been reported that some apprehension has been felt among Treasury officials at Washington, that the holders of the coupon 5 per cents, which were called on May 12, may, through carelessness, neglect to ask for their extension at 3½ per cent before July 1, at which time that privilege expires. On June 1, the amount of coupon 5's reported outstanding was \$118,646,450, and up to the present date holders of only about \$40,000,000 have asked for their extension. At present prices it is remarkable that there should be so much delay in this matter.

The readiness with which first class securities are taken by the public was forcibly illustrated on Monday, when \$3,500,000 Chicago and Northwestern 5 per cent. sinking fund bonds were taken by ten o'clock following the announcement by one of our leading banking houses in the morning papers of that day that it would receive subscriptions for that amount at 102½. There is practically no limit to the demand for securities of this kind.

The Philadelphia market has been irregular and during the past few days generally weak, with some show of comparative stringency in the money market. The sales of stocks have not been large with the largest transactions in the usual favorites.

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CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER:

	PAGE
WEEKLY NOTES,	145
EDITORIALS:	
General Grant and "My Friend,"	148
Some Results from the Census. V.,	149
PUBLIC OPINION:	
The Southern Press and Mr. Davis's Work,	150
The Political Outlook in Ohio,	150
POETRY:	
Spring in Autumn; A Greeting. By George Parsons Lathrop,	151
SPECIAL ARTICLES:	
The Modern Public Library,	151
Suicide in America,	152
LITERATURE:	
Badeau's "Military History of Grant,	153
Jefferson Davis's History,	153
The Emperor,	154
THOUGHTS FROM THE MAGAZINES	155
AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS,	155
DRIFT,	156
FINANCE,	157

Among the contributors for the month of May were:

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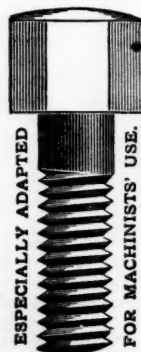
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